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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
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REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

APPOINTED BY

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ASSEMBLED AT WESTMINSTER IN THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN,

TO ENQUIRE INTO

THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION

OF THE

EAST INDIA COMPANY,

AND OF THE

BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON:

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MDCCLXXIII.

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THE Committee have found it impoſſible, with their utmoſt diligence, to go through the multiplicity of matter, which the order of the Houſe comprehends; and they, beſides, have thought themſelves obliged to depart from the regular courſe of their enquiry, in order to make a diſtinct and ſeparate report, upon the petition of Gregore Cojamaul, late of Bengal, in the Eaſt-Indies, on behalf of himſelf and others, which the Houſe referred to them by a ſubſequent order.

Notwithſtanding the buſineſs of your Committee has been by this circumſtance, and by the inſufficiency of the time, left incomplete; yet as the ſeſſion, as they apprehend, is drawing to a concluſion, and as every part of their enquiry is full of important matter, they thought it right to report the progreſs they have hitherto been enabled to make.

Your Committee beg leave to premiſe, that, for the regularity of their enquiry, and in order to give the cleareſt ſtate of it to the Houſe, they thought it expedient to arrange their proceedings under the following heads:

1ſt. The ſeveral charters granted to the Eaſt-India Company, with the acts of parliament reſpecting the ſame; and alſo, the grants and treaties which have ſubſiſted between the Company and the Powers in India, from their firſt eſtabliſhment to the preſent time.

2dly. The Commiſſions, and other inſtruments, by which the Company authorized and impowered their ſervants to carry on their affairs in India.

3dly. To purſue, by hiſtorical deduction, the ſtate of affairs in India, the manner in which the preſent poſſeſſions in that country were acquired, and the different tranſactions attending thoſe acquiſitions; beginning with the tranſactions of Bengal, and dividing them into three periods; viz. from the eſtabliſhment of the preſent Company to the completion of the Revolution, in the year 1757; from thence to the aſſuming the Dewanny in the year 1765; and from thence to the preſent time; and in each period reſpectively to ſtate the ſituation of the Company's affairs, and the material parts of the conduct of the Company's ſervants, with reſpect to the powers intruſted with them by the Company, in the civil and military departments; in the adminiſtration of juſtice; in the accepting of preſents; in the management of trade; and in the revenues and coinage.

4thly. The various diſputes with foreign Companies ſince the year 1765.

5thly. The conduct of the Directors at home, during all the periods comprehended in this enquiry, reſpectively, to the different powers exerciſed at any time by them; to the manner of keeping and checking public accounts at home and abroad; to the controul of their ſervants; and to the abuſes to which the whole, or any part, of the Eaſt India affairs is liable, from defects in the conſtitution of the Company, when applied to their preſent ſituation at home and abroad.

Purſuant to the above plan, your Committee proceeded to read ſuch charters and acts of parliament as are applicable to their enquiry; all of which are in the poſſeſſion of the Houſe, and a ſchedule of them is annexed, in the Appendix, N° 1.

The copies of commiſſion, and inſtruments from the Company to their ſervants, are included in the above number of the appendix.

Your Committee would not preſume to ſtate to the Houſe the conſtitution of the Eaſt-India Company, without the moſt critical and minute examination of each charter and act of Parliament; and they could not, in the ſpace of time allotted them, enter upon ſo great a work, which may be taken up hereafter and ſtated from the materials referred to in the appendix.

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Your Committee proceeded to enquire into the nature and extent of the privileges and powers claimed in Bengal by the Company, under Grants and Firmaunds from the Princes of the country; copies of which, for the information of the Houſe, are annexed in the Appendix, N° 2.

Your Committee not finding traces of any very material diſturbances in the enjoyment of thoſe privileges and powers in Bengal, from the firſt eſtabliſhment of the Company, to the death of Alli Ver di Cawn, in the year 1756, applied themſelves to diſcover the cauſes of the troubles which enſued ſoon after that event, and brought on the loſs of Calcutta; and for this purpoſe, your Committee read the conſultations and correſpondence marked in the Appendix, N° 3.

To the ſame purpoſe your Committee called Charles Manningham, Eſquire.

Your Committee think proper, in this place, to ſtate to the Houſe, that they have not been able for want of time to extract from their minutes the ſtate of facts ſo ſuccinctly as they would otherwiſe have done; and therefore they are under the neceſſity of laying before the Houſe, in this and every other part of their proceedings, the evidence almoſt in the manner they received it.

Charles Manningham, Eſquire, informed your Committee, That in the year 1756, he was Third in Council, and Warehouſe Keeper at Calcutta, and next to Mr. Drake upon the ſpot; that he thinks it is not in the power of any man to aſſign the reaſon for the origin of the troubles, and knows of no part of the conduct of the Company's ſervants at Calcutta, that could incenſe the government; that the troubles commenced in June 1756.—Alli Ver di Cawn, the Predeceſſor of Serajah Dowla, died about the April preceding; that Serajah Dowla had always the character of a raſh vicious young man; and it was ſuppoſed the firſt occaſion of his coming againſt Calcutta was, that he was tempted by the idea of the place being likely to afford great plunder; that the firſt accounts the Factory had of his ill intentions towards them, was the beginning of June 1756.

Being queſtioned as to what he knew of offence taken by the Nabob, in regard to protection given by the Engliſh to one Kiſſindaſs; he ſaid, that Mr. Drake was governor of the ſettlement, and Mr. Watts was chief of Coſſimbuzar, and believes, that Kiſſindaſs was at that time in the Dacca part of the country; that Mr. Watts wrote to Mr. Drake, to ſuffer Kiſſindaſs to land at Calcutta, in his way to Muxadavad, by way of refreſhment, as his family had been uſeful to the Engliſh; that as Mr. Drake was abſent at the time Mr. Watts's letter arrived, the letter was ſent under cover to the witneſs to be opened, and he is not quite ſure whether that period was before or after the death of Alli Ver di Cawn; that Kiſſindaſs landed at Calcutta accordingly; that he never ſaw him, and that when Mr. Drake arrived a few days after, he delivered him the letter.

The witneſs ſaid, He was upon the ſpot when Serajah Dowla came down, and believes Kiſſindaſs was not then in the town; he does not recollect, that Serajah Dowla made any demand for the delivering up of Kiſſindaſs, but that if he did it would appear upon the public proceedings.

Being further queſtioned, he repeated, That it was impoſſible to give any rational account of the origin of the troubles; and ſaid, that he was at Muxadavad, at the time Lord Clive was there in July of the ſame year; that enquiry was then made with all poſſible attention, but without ſucceſs, into the motives of Serajah Dowla's conduct from his principal officers, and likewiſe from the officers of his predeceſſor, from the Seats, and every other perſon from whom information was likely to be obtained.

Being aſked, whether Kiſſindaſs was really protected or not, what time he remained in Calcutta, after Mr. Drake's return, and whether he knew or heard before the taking of Calcutta, that the Nabob demanded Kiſſindaſs? he ſaid, Kiſſindaſs was permitted to land, but how long he ſtaid he could not tell, and that he had heard at that time of his being demanded: he alſo ſaid, he was reckoned to be very rich, and that he had a number of boats, and it was ſuppoſed he had treaſure with him.

Being further aſked, whether Kiſſindaſs's coming to Calcutta, was conſidered as an eſcape from Serajah Dowla? he ſaid, it could not be conſidered as an eſcape, becauſe he was coming in his way from Dacca to Muxadavad, where the Nabob was; he could not form any opinion, whether Kiſſindaſs at the time he landed at Calcutta, in his way to Muxadavad or Coſſimbuzar, knew of the death of Alli Ver di Cawn, or the ſucceſſion of Serajah Dowla.

Being aſked, whether it was in council that he heard the report, that the Nabob had formerly demanded the delivery of Kiſſindaſs? he ſaid, that he heard at the time that Mr. Drake had received a letter from the Nabob to that purport, and had anſwered, that no further protection had been given to Kiſſindaſs, than a permiſſion to land in his way to Muxadavad; that it was either in council or committee he heard it, but could not ſay which, and thinks this letter of the demand muſt have been received while Kiſſindaſs was in the place; the witneſs knew of no further demand from the Nabob relative to Kiſſindaſs, nor any demand of any other nature, except a trifling circumſtance of a gentleman having erected a ſummer houſe in his garden, which had been repreſented to the Nabob as a fortification, but it was explained to the Nabob, and a deſire expreſſed, that he would ſend to examine it.

He further ſaid, that the Engliſh had no intercourſe with the Nabob, and aſſigned no cauſe to his knowledge, for coming down againſt them.

Being aſked, whether it is not the cuſtom in Bengal, that the Prime Miniſter of a preceding Nabob or of his ſubordinates, ſhould ſtand forth and be amenable to the power of the reigning Nabob, and not withdraw himſelf? he ſaid, the nature of the government being arbitrary did

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naturally expect it, but whether it is the cuſtom he could not ſay; but that undoubtedly if this is refuſed, the Nabobs uſually endeavour by all means in their power to compel them to be amenable.

The witneſs knew of no cauſe for any complaint of tenants of the Mogul being protected by the Engliſh in Calcutta, nor of any ſuch complaint being tranſmitted to the factory, either directly from the Nabob or from Mr. Watts.

Notice being taken, that it appeared by certain proceedings of the governor and council of Fort Saint George, that Mr. Manninghani had objected to ſeveral articles in the various accounts or informations tranſmitted to them from Bengal, reſpecting the capture of Calcutta; and it further appearing by the ſaid proceedings, that in conſequence of ſuch objections from Mr. Manningham, the ſeveral informations were officially delivered to him, in order to ſtate his objections at that time; the witneſs was then aſked, whether he had ever delivered in any anſwer upon the reference ſo made to him? to which he ſaid, that he was deputed by the governor of Calcutta, to go to Madraſs, and carried a letter directed to the governor and council at Madraſs; and was commiſſioned to give them a further account, by word of mouth, of the Affairs the factory.

In regard to a meſſenger coming from the Nabob to Calcutta, upon the ſubject of protection given to the Nabob's tenants, and the treatment of that meſſenger; the witneſs ſaid, he knew of a meſſenger coming with a letter addreſſed to the Preſident, and wrote in Perſian, and to the beſt of his remembrance, a part of that letter related, as he mentioned before, to Kiſſindaſs; he does not recollect whether he ſaw the letter or not, and believed Mr. Drake, upon the meſſenger delivering the letter, ordered him to leave the Town; he believes an anſwer was ſent afterwards, and the purport of it was, that Kiſſindaſs was only allowed to land, and no protection was given him; the meſſenger, he believed, ſtaid but a few hours in the Town after he delivered the letter; he was an Hircarrah, by name as he believes Narranzing.

Being asked, Whether the anſwer to the Nabob's letter was communicated to the Council, or whether it was ſent as Mr. Drake's private letter? The Witneſs ſaid, The purport of both the letter and the anſwer itſelf were communicated; he does not recollect, who the anſwer was ſent by, nor how long it might be after the receipt of the letter, but believes, it might be the ſame day or the day following, and did not recollect the whole contents of the letter.

Being asked, If it was the uſual practice, when a meſſenger brought a letter from the Nabob, to order him to leave the Town without any anſwer ſent with him? he ſaid, it was not, nor could he aſſign any reaſon for ſo doing, for the receipt of the letter was not public, nor was the treatment of the meſſenger ſo.

In regard to the meaſures the Factory took to pacify the Nabob, after they were informed of his hoſtile intentions, the Witneſs ſaid, Mr. Drake was repeatedly deſired to write to the Nabob, to know the cauſe of his reſentment, and that he had no doubt but he did ſo, but believed, he received no anſwer; among other methods, Coja Waſſeed, a merchant of conſiderable rank and ſubſtance, and likewiſe a tenant of ſeveral conſiderable farms, was requeſted by letters to apply to the Nabob, to know the reaſon of his reſentment, and was deſired to act as a mediator upon the occaſion; it was alſo tried to be informed by means of this Coja Waſſeed, whether money was the only object in view, and, in general, he was requeſted to intereſt himſelf as well as he could to appeaſe the Nabob; his anſwer was, That it was not in his power to be of any uſe upon the occaſion, and that the payment of a ſum of money was not the object; the reaſon of applying to Coja Waſſeed, was, that he was ſuppoſed to be a man of ſome weight, and in favour with the Nabob, from the circumſtance of his having entertained him at his houſe, when he was Chuta Nabob.

The Witneſs being aſked, Whether he had any reaſon to believe, that any ſum of money or preſent was given to Mr. Drake, or any other perſon by Kiſſindaſs? he ſaid, he did not know, nor had any reaſon to believe that any were given to Mr. Drake, or any other perſon.

Being again queſtioned, Whether he was ſure, that Kiſſindaſs was not received in Calcutta, before the death of Alli Ver di Cawn? he ſaid, he was not ſure—And whether the contents of the letter from Mr. Watts, were not to permit Kiſſindaſs to remain two months in the Town, and that there was a particular recommendation of Kiſſindaſs's family, as being particularly ſerviceable to the Engliſh? he ſaid, he could not recollect the particular purport of the letter; that in general it was a warm recommendation of Kiſſindaſs, as the ſon of Rajah Bullub, a man of power and intereſt at the Durbar, and who might be of ſervice to the affairs of the India Company at the Durbar.

Your Committee next called Richard Beecher, Eſquire, who was deſired to relate what he knew of the origin of the troubles in Bengal: And he informed the Committee, That about the end of the year 1755, he was appointed Chief of the ſubordinate Factory at Dacca; that from that time he did not attend at any of the Councils that were held at Calcutta, and of courſe could only ſpeak of tranſactions that paſſed there, by report from others; that at the time the letter of the 10th of July 1756, was wrote from Dacca, himſelf and the other gentlemen that ſigned it, were priſoners to the Nabob, and by his permiſſion allowed to reſide in the French Factory; that for ſome time before the taking of Calcutta, they had no correſpondence with the gentlemen of Fort William, but for intelligence were obliged to truſt to the natives of the country, or what the French received from their ſettlement at Chandernagore; that he thought it his duty at that time to forward to the Court of Directors, and to the Governor and Council at Madraſs, ſuch intelligence as he was able by thoſe means to procure; that he has ſince had

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the greateſt reaſon to believe, the accounts tranſmitted to the Governor and Council at Madraſs, then obtained from the French, were greatly exaggerated, and very fallacious in many particulars; that the report of Kiſſindaſs's being received and protected in Calcutta, being a cauſe aſſigned by Serajah Dowla for his diſpleaſure againſt the Engliſh, he heard from numbers of people where he then was, both French and natives, and he gave credit to it, and therefore aſſigned it to the Court of Directors as the principal reaſon.

In relation to the affair of Kiſſindaſs, the witneſs ſaid, That he recollected to have heard Kiſſindaſs was received in Calcutta about the latter end of March 1756, and remained there till the place was taken by Serajah Dowla, on the 20th of June; he and Omichund were both priſoners in the Factory by order of the Governor, as he believed: And the Witneſs further ſaid, That in the ſituation the India Company then were, as merchants living under the protection of the country government, he then was, and ſtill is, of opinion, that neither Kiſſindaſs, nor any other ſubject of the Nabob, ſhould have been received and protected in the Company's ſettlements, and he ſtill thinks, that this did give a pretence to Serajah Dowla, to ſhew his reſentment againſt the Engliſh, but at the ſame time he is now convinced, from the many opportunities he hath ſince had of converſing with thoſe who were at that time principal officers and in high ſtation about Serajah Dowla, at Muxadavád, that even if that pretence had not been given, he would have marched his army down againſt Calcutta; his object was money, Calcutta was reported to be very rich, and ſo were the other European ſettlements of Chandernagore and Chinſura; Serajah Dowla was a young man, violent, paſſionate, of great ambition, tinctured with avarice, and he expected both wealth and honour, by attacking the European ſettlements, and by extorting money from them; that this appears from his conduct in attacking Calcutta, and from the ſums he extorted from the French, Dutch, and Danes, after that tranſaction.

The Witneſs being asked, Whether he ever heard of the Nabob's demanding Kiſſindaſs after he was received in Calcutta? he ſaid, he did not recollect that he heard it before Calcutta was taken, though he may have done ſo, but he heard it ſoon after: That his opinion at that time was, that if Kiſſindaſs had been delivered up, and a ſum of money offered, the Nabob would not have proceeded to the lengths he did in attacking Calcutta; and he grounded this opinion in great meaſure upon what had been the former cuſtom of the Nabobs and Princes of that country, when they were diſpleaſed with the Engliſh: That Alli Ver di Cawn, who was a wiſe Prince, had upon different occaſions ſhewn his diſpleaſure and taken money from them, but appeared always to be ſo ſenſible of the benefits accruing to his country, by the trade carried on by the Engliſh, that he never proceeded further than to put a ſtop to the trade of the Company, and to place forces round their Factories, by which means he always brought them to the terms he pleaſed.

The Witneſs being asked, Whether he knew of any money unjuſtly taken from the Company by Alji Ver di Cawn, or any troubles ariſing from demands of money previous to the acceſſion of Serajah Dowla? he ſaid, he recollected two inſtances where ſums of money were taken, the firſt, to the beſt of his remembrance in 1744 or 1745, when he made a demand upon all the European ſettlements in his dominions, and gave as reaſon for it, the great expence he was obliged to be at in maintaining a very large army to defend his country, and thoſe who lived under his protection, from the Mharattas, who uſed at that time almoſt annually to invade Bengal; that the Engliſh Company, at that time, was obliged to pay three Lack and a half of Rupees, as well as he could remember; and the other European nations in proportion to their trade:—That he recollects another inſtance about the year 1748 or 1749, when the Company's trade was ſtopped, and forces put round their ſubordinate Factories for ſeveral months, in conſequence of the complaint of an Armenian, who had freighted goods on a ſhip under Dutch colours, which ſhip was taken by Commodore Griffin or ſome of his ſquadron, and condemned, as he underſtood, for having French property on board: The Armenian living under the protection of the Nabob of Bengal, made his complaint to the Nabob of the loſs of his property, and the Nabob inſiſted on the Engliſh making good to him the loſs he had ſuſtained by that capture: At that time orders from home were peremptory, not to comply with the demands made by the country government; in conſequence of which, the gentlemen refuſed to comply with the demand made by the Nabob; but after uſing their endeavours for ſeveral months to pacify him, they were obliged to ſubmit: That he ſuppoſes the Company looked upon the demand of the three Lack and a half by Alli Ver di Cawn as a hoſtile one, and believed the orders above-mentioned were ſent out in conſequence of it.

The witneſs being aſked, Whether he knew, or believed, that Mr. Drake or any other perſon received money or preſents from Kiſſindaſs, for the protection given him? ſaid, he did not know, nor did he believe that he or any other perſon did receive either money or preſents.

John Cooke, Eſquire, who in the year 1756 was ſecretary to the governor and council at Calcutta, being called to the ſame point as the above witneſſes, gave the following narrative from notes taken by him ſoon after the tranſactions of that year, and ſince copied with his own hand.

Alli Ver di Cawn, Nabob of the three provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, died on the 9th of April 1756, and Serajah Dowla took poſſeſſion of his government, agreeably to the will and intention of his Grandfather, who had, even in his life time, ſeated him on the Muſnud, and obliged the officers of his durbar to do him homage as Subah; this paved the way for his being acknowledged and obeyed as ſuch, without heſitation or diſpute, immediately on the death of the old Nabob:—The only ſhew of oppoſition that he met with, was from the widow of

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Nawahjiſcawn, who had got a body of men together to ſecure the wealth ſhe was left in poſſeſſion of by the death of her huſband, in caſe the young Subah ſhould attempt to ſeize it:—This was ſoon adjuſted, and her troops diſbanded, upon promiſe of being left unmoleſted in her perſon and riches, by which means all was quiet at the capital, and Serajah Dowla's authority univerſally eſtabliſhed in the dependant provinces, except in Poornea, the Nabob whereof (a relation) refuſed to truſt himſelf in the hands of the young Subah, and therefore would not come to Moorſhedavad, but kept himſelf in his province of Poornea, at the head of his army:—This obliged Serajah Dowla to take the field very ſoon after his acceſſion to the ſubahſhip, and march up as far as Raja Maul to intimidate the Poorncan, and force him to come to the Durbar.

Preſently after the death of the old Nabob, preſident Drake wrote Serajah Dowla a letter of congratulation on his acceſſion, and deſired his favour and protection to the Engliſh company, which was received very kindly, and promiſes given our Vackeel, that he would ſhew the Engliſh greater marks of friendſhip and eſteem than ever his grandfather had done.

About this juncture the company's packet per Delawar was received from Madraſs, by which we found there was the greateſt likelihood imaginable of a rupture between us and France, and the court of directors particularly recommended to the governor and council to be ſtrictly on their guard, and to put their fortifications in the beſt ſtate of defence they could.—In conſequence of theſe advices the line of guns towards the river was repaired and ſtrengthened, and ſome other trifling works erected, particularly a redoubt at Perrin's garden, which had been planned by Colonel Scott. This circumſtance is mentioned, as the Subah made it one of his pretences for attacking the Engliſh.

It is neceſſary to take notice, that one Kiſſindaſs (who had been in the government's ſervice as duan and naib of Dacca) had embarked himſelf, his women and effects, on a large number of boats upon the death of Nawahjiſcawn (which happened not long before that of old Alli Ver di Cawn) and had ſheltered himſelf from the power of Serajah Dowla in the woods below Dacca, till he heard that his father Radgbullubdaſs was ſet at liberty, and ſeemingly reſtored to favour; then, under pretence of going upon a pilgrimage to Saugers or Jaggernaut, he landed himſelf and effects in Calcutta on the 16th of March, in his paſſage down the river, by permiſſion of the preſiding member of the board (Mr. Drake being at Ballaſore for his health):—This anecdote is likewiſe mentioned for the ſame reaſon as the reparations to our works, becauſe Serajah Dowla made uſe of his being ſuffered to live in Calcutta, as another cauſe of offence, the Engliſh giving protection (ſo he termed it) to the ſervants of the government, by this reception of Kiſſindaſs in the ſettlement.

As ſoon as Serajah Dowla found himſelf pretty well eſtabliſhed in the government, he ſent a Hircarrah (Meſſenger) to demand Kiſſindaſs; but as the Hircarrah came in a private manner, and diſguiſed, into the ſettlement, the preſident, Mr. Drake, being then returned from Ballaſore, thought it improper to admit him as a meſſenger from the Nabob, and ordered him to be turned out of the bounds.

Very ſhortly after this tranſaction the governor received a letter from the Subah, ſignifying his diſpleaſure at our repairing our fortifications, or carrying on any new works without firſt obtaining his permiſſion, and inſiſted, not only on our putting a ſtop to ſuch works, but on our deſtroying what was already done:—The governor's anſwer not correſponding with the Subah's impetuoſity of temper, and finding that he would not comply with his peremptory orders for deſtroying our works, he took the ſudden reſolution of forcing us to a compliance; immediately laid aſide his deſign of croſſing the Ganges to bring the Nabob of Poornea to reaſon, and marched his whole army back to Moorſhedavad, having firſt ſent orders to Rajah Doolubram (alias Roy Doolub) to inveſt our factory at Coſſimbuzar, with a body of horſemen:—This ſtep was followed by a total ſtoppage of all our buſineſs at the Aurungs, and the other ſubordinate factories.

The 25th of May we received the firſt advice of the Nabob's orders for inveſting Coſſimbuzar, and from that time every day brought us freſh intelligence of that factory being ſurrounded with the Subah's forces; and that Serajah Dowla abſolutely threatened to attack them, if we delayed or refuſed to deſtroy the works we had erected at Calcutta.

Letter after letter was diſpatched to the gentlemen, to order their Vackeel to remonſtrate at the Dunbar, how unjuſtly the Subah proceeded againſt the Engliſh, in ſuffering their enemies to perſuade him they were erecting ſtrong fortifications, when nothing was further from the truth; which the Nabob might be ſatisfied of, if he would ſend a perſon that he could confide in to Calcutta to ſee what we were doing, and report the ſame as it really was. Our communication with Coſſimbuzar began now to be difficult, and as our laſt advices only ſerved to confirm the report of the Subah's determination to make himſelf maſter of that Factory firſt, and after that to march againſt the preſidency itſelf, a council of war was ſummoned on the 5th June, to conſider of the ſituation of Coſſimbuzar Factory, and whether it was practicable or adviſeable to ſend them a reinforcement. The weakneſs of our own garriſon (which did not then exceed 170 effective men, not above 50 or 60 of which were Europeans) determined the majority of the officers, who aſſiſted at that Council, to declare in writing, that in their opinion, it was imprudent at that juncture to attempt ſending up a detachment for reinforcing Coſſimbuzar, ſurrounded as it was by the Subah's forces.

For the reaſon already mentioned, as well as many other ſubſtantial ones, the Preſident and Council thought it more eligible to promiſe obedience to the Nabob's orders, than to riſk the iſſue of a quarrel with him, at a time we were ſo ill prepared in every reſpect, for offence or defence. A letter to that purport was accordingly incloſed to Mr. Watts, to be delivered Serajah Dowla;

Dowla; but the ingreſs to our Factory being totally put a ſtop to, the Chief never received this letter.

While this was doing at Coſſimbuzar, the gentlemen were not idle in Calcutta, but exerted their utmoſt (as things grew towards a criſis) to put the place in as good a poſture of defence as it was capable of, and diſpatched ſeveral Pattamars to Fort Saint George for aſſiſtance. Orders were likewiſe ſent to Dacca and the other Subordinates, to call in as much of the Company's money and effects that were outſtanding as they cou'd, and to hold themſelves in readineſs to embark the ſame upon the firſt notice, and bring them to Fort William.

On the 6th June it was currently reported (but nobody knew from whence it aroſe) that Coſſimbuzar was delivered up to the Nabob. The Governor thereupon ordered a ſurvey of the town to be made, and the works neceſſary for its defence to be laid before the board by the officers in garriſon, which was accordingly done the next day: The plan was to throw up a few batteries fronting the principal avenues in the Town, and a line of intrenchment between, which was immediately ſet about, and every Cooley employed to get it done: The Militia were ſummoned and exerciſed, and every other meaſure taken to maintain a ſiege, in caſe the Nabob carried things to that extremity. As it was impoſſible to receive any reinforcement in time, if the Subah purſued his march to Calcutta immediately, the French and Dutch were applied to for aſſiſtance: The Dutch declined giving us any, and the French only gaſconaded with us, by offering to join their force with ours, if we would quit our own ſettlement, and carry our garriſon and effects up to Chandernagore.

At One o'clock P. M. of the 7th June, we received the intelligence of Coſſimbuzar Factory being ſurrendered up to Serajah Dowla on the 2d of that month. This intelligence came from Mr. Collet and therefore removed all doubts concerning the loſs of that place, as he was ſecond upon the ſpot. By his letter it appeared that the Chief had been aſſured, that if he would wait on the Nabob in perſon, he might poſſibly prevent the Factory being attacked, which his Council thought it more adviſeable for him to do, than to riſk the event of a rupture.—Mr. Watts met with a very different reception to what he expected, and he and Meſſrs. Collet and Batſon were forced to ſign a Mutchulka, or obligation, that the Nabob had got prepared; they had been promiſed their liberty upon ſigning of it, but found there was no faith to be put on the Subah's word, for inſtead of obtaining their liberty, Mr. Collet was remanded back to the Factory, and forced to give it up to the commander in chief of the Nabob's troops; after which he was again carried to the camp, and Mr. Watts and he kept cloſe priſoners, and treated in a very indifferent manner.

The ſeizure of Coſſimbuzar in this treacherous manner, and his ſubſequent proceeding, plainly indicated the Subah's intention was no leſs than the attack of the preſidency, and expulſion of the Engliſh; for immediate orders were given to his Generals to march towards Calcutta, and his whole train of artillery brought into the field:—The other Europeans at Chandernagore and Chinſura were called upon to aſſiſt his forces in reducing Calcutta, and every body at the Durbar forbid to intercede for the Engliſh.

So uncommonly expeditious were the Subah's forces in their march down to Calcutta, that in about 13 days after the ſurrender of Coſſimbuzar, they began the attack of the preſidency itſelf, having in that time marched above 160 miles with a heavy train of artillery, in the hotteſt ſeaſon of the year.

Hoſtilities began on our part on the 12th June, by ſpiking up the cannon at Tannah's fort (a fortification belonging to the Moors, a little below the town) and endeavouring to beat down the walls of that battery, which could not however be effected on account of the prodigious hardneſs of the Pucca work, and the vaſt thickneſs of the maſonry:—While our people were upon this enterprize, a party of the Nabob's troops from Hughly, with five pieces of artillery, arrived and obliged our men to return to their ſhips:—A ſecond attempt was made two days after, to diſlodge the Moors from that place, but to no purpoſe: the cannon from our country ſhips employed in the attack, being too ſmall to make any impreſſion, or do any miſchief.

Several letters and meſſages paſſed between the Preſident and Coja Waſſeed, in which the latter was deſired to uſe his influence with the Nabob in our favour, and authorized to accommodate matters by giving a ſum of money, which it was imagined was what the Subah aimed at, according to the cuſtom of his predeceſſor, who had frequently ſqueezed large ſums from the Europeans under various pretences; but we were diſappointed in our judgment of Serajah Dowla's views, and we quickly found he was too much exaſperated to be appeaſed by the ordinary method of a preſent.

On Wedneſday the 16th a firing was heard to the northward, which proved to be an attack made upon the redoubt at Perrins by the van of the Nabob's army who were advanced as far as Mr. Kelſall's garden at Chitpoor, and were attempting to enter Calcutta on that ſide, by forcing the poſt before mentioned. The reception they met with at this redoubt, obliged them to abandon the deſign of entering the town at that avenue, and we found their army had wheeled off to the eaſtward towards Dumdumma, which ſide of our town was quite expoſed and defenceleſs:—It was hoped however, that the men they loſt at Perrins would have cooled their ardour, and have made the Nabob liſten to terms of accommodation:—All Thurſday we were pretty quiet, excepting the diſturbance occaſioned by a band of robbers attending the Nabob's camp, who had entered the town in ſeveral quarters, and plundered every houſe they came to:—The enemy had now entirely ſurrounded the town, and on Friday the 18th June in the morning, attacked the entrenchments on every ſide with the muſqueteers of their army: They had infinitely the advan-

tage

tage over us in this attack, as they could fire upon our men from the tops, windows, and veranda's of the houſes which ſtood cloſe to, and overlooked, our lines and batteries, by which means they did a great deal of miſchief, and annoyed our people ſo terribly, that ſcarce any body could venture to raiſe their heads above the cover of the breaſt works, for fear of being killed or wounded; while, on our part, we were obliged to ſpend our fire at random, by pointing our cannon at the houſes they were lodged in, without being certain of their doing execution, though it is moſt probable we muſt have killed many of the enemy.

The firing was very hot on both ſides from eight in the morning till noon, when the enemy ſlackened, and made almoſt a total ceſſation of the attack, for what reaſon we could not tell: In the afternoon they began with more warmth than ever; our people were now extremely fatigued; great numbers had been killed, and a far greater wounded; the enemy poured in multitudes from all quarters; there ſeemed no hopes of defending the lines under the diſadvantages already mentioned, the Moors having poſſeſſed themſelves of every lodgment that commanded the entrenchment, and in ſome places had even penetrated within our works.—In this ſituation of things, it was judged expedient to ſpike up all the cannon at the faſcine batteries, and withdraw the military and militia ſtationed there nearer to the fort itſelf, and to abandon the entrenchment; orders were iſſued to the ſeveral poſts for that purpoſe, and the ſame put in execution towards the cloſe of the evening.

No ſooner was this perceived by the enemy, than they poſſeſſed themſelves of our lines, and turned one of our 18 pounders at the jail battery againſt the fort; but their little ſkill in managing artillery prevented their doing much damage with their cannon in any part of the ſiege; and had they uſed their muſquetry no better, we might have remained very ſecure within our walls.—They now brought up a few pieces of ſmall cannon to play againſt the fort, from a little battery or breaſt work to the ſouth eaſt; but what annoyed us moſt of all were the wall pieces and matchlocks, which they fixed upon the tops of ſeveral houſes that entirely overlooked the fort, and fired ſuch ſhowers of balls from them, and that ſo inceſſantly, that it became very dangerous to ſtir from one part of the factory to another.—This evening (the 18th) it was determined to remove our women on board the Doddalay, and ſuch other country ſhips and veſſels as were in the river: This embarkation was performed in the duſk of the evening, but with ſo little order, that many of the ladies (among whom was the governor's wife) were left behind, and ſome of them obliged to remain even till the next day, for want of boats to carry them off.

It is eaſy to imagine the conſternation and confuſion that was diſcovered in every countenance, when it was known the enemy had in one day obliged us to abandon thoſe works on which we placed our principal dependance, and had flattered ourſelves we could have defended till a reinforcement arrived from Madraſs: The inability of our military officers appeared too evident now to expect much from them; and as the governor was as little qualified to act in ſuch a ſituation as the officers, it could not but follow, that all command muſt have been in a manner at an end, for want of a proper confidence in thoſe who were to be obeyed: This was actually the caſe, and from the time we were confined to the defence of the fort itſelf, nothing was to be ſeen but diſorder, riot, and confuſion; every body was officious in adviſing, yet no one was properly qualified to give advice:—The factory was ſo crouded with Portugueze women and unneceſſary people, that it would have been impoſſible to have found proviſions enough for one week, even had our walls and garriſon been able to reſiſt the efforts of the enemy. In this ſituation it was lucky for us the Moors (who never fight in the night) ſuſpended their operations as ſoon as it was dark, and gave us, by that means an opportunity of conſulting and debating on what was to be done; the majority of the military officers gave it as their opinion, that it was impracticable to defend the fort with ſo ſmall a gariſon, and ſo unprovided with ſtores for a ſiege, againſt the numerous army of the enemy; the artillery officers reported, we had not powder and ſhot enough for three days; our bombs and grenadoes were of no uſe, the fuſees being ſpoiled by the dampneſs of the climate, owing to their being filled ſome years, and never looked into afterwards.—Thus circumſtanced, a retreat to our ſhips was by every body judged the moſt eligible ſtep that could be taken; but the diſpute was, whether that retreat ought to be made immediately, under favour of the night, or deferred till the next day, and in what manner to conduct a general retreat without confuſion or tumult? It was at laſt reſolved to defer the retreat till the next night, and that all the next day ſhould be employed in embarking the Portugueze women and our moſt valuable effects, by which means we ſhould avoid the diſorder we dreaded:—Had this plan been ſtrictly adhered to, and rightly executed, a number of lives would have been ſaved, and all thoſe dreadful and melancholy conſequences prevented, which afterwards happened.—Mr. William Bailie, one of the council, who exerted himſelf upon all occaſions in a moſt diſintereſted and generous manner, undertook to ſee the women and effects ſent away, and began the embarkation of the firſt early on Saturday morning.—The enemy renewed their attack with the break of the day, and cannonaded the fort very briſkly from two or three different batteries, beſides keeping up a hot fire from the tops of the houſes with their wall pieces and ſhamſingees; the Moors preſſed on ſo cloſe, and in ſuch multitudes, that it was deemed more prudent to call in all the out poſts (for we had occupied the church and a few of the adjacent houſes all the preceding night) to prevent their being cut off; the party ſtationed in Mr. Cruttenden's houſe, upon leaving it, ſet fire to it, to prevent the enemy from making a lodgment there, as it ſtood within forty yards of the factory walls, and we had the ſatisfaction ſoon after of ſeeing the company's houſe likewiſe in flames (done we imagine by the enemy) which ſtood as near the walls on the other ſide.

Unluckily no orders relating to the intended general retreat had been publiſhed, and as the reſolution of retreating was known by the whole garriſon by report, without the method which had been planned for putting it in execution, many of the inhabitants imagined every body was to ſhift for himſelf, and endeavour to get on board ſuch veſſel as he conveniently could: Upon this preſumption ſeveral left the factory, and made their retreat to the ſhips; which being obſerved, they were followed by many others, ſome of whom had been even preſent at the conſultation in which the plan of the retreat had been ſettled, but concluding the former ſcheme was altered, for conſiderations to them unknown, they made the beſt of their way to the ſhips laying off the fort; to add to the general confuſion, between nine and ten o'clock the Doddalay (on board of which ſhip were Meſſrs. M. and F.) weighed her anchor, and dropt down to Surman's Garden, the captain of her, it ſeems, being apprehenſive of her being burnt by the fire arrows, or rockets, diſcharged by the enemy upon the veſſels in the river; no ſooner was this perceived, than every ſhip and ſloop followed the example, and weighing their anchors, left the ſtation they might have been of the greateſt ſervice in, by affording an aſylum to the garriſon at their retreat. This ill-judged circumſtance occaſioned all the uproar and misfortunes that followed; for the moment it was obſerved, many of the gentlemen on ſhore (who perhaps never dreamt of leaving the factory till every body did) immediately jumped into ſuch boats as were at the Factory Stairs, and rowed to the ſhips; the Manjees and Dandies of the boats we had ſecured, ſeeing the univerſal confuſion that prevailed, and that the ſhips were dropping down the river, thought the danger much greater than it really was, and began to conſult their own ſafety, by leaving the ſhore and rowing away as faſt as they could, either to the ſhips or to the other ſide of the river, maugre all that could be ſaid or done to prevent them.—Among thoſe who left the Factory in this unaccountable manner were the governor, Mr. Drake, Mr. Macket, Captain Commandant Minchin, and Captain Grant:—In leſs than a quarter of an hour thoſe who perſevered in defending the fort found themſelves abandoned by all the ſeniors of council, and the principal military officers, and had the mortification likewiſe to ſee themſelves deprived of the means of retreating, by the deſertion of the ſhips and boats.—As ſoon as it was known the Governor had left the Factory, the gate towards the river was immediately locked, to prevent any further deſertion; and the general voice of the garriſon called for Mr. Holwell to take the charge of their defence upon him.—A Council being haſtily ſummmoned, Mr. Pearkes, the ſenior then on ſhore, waved his right to the government in favour of Mr. Holwell, who thereupon acted in all reſpects as commander in chief, and exerted his utmoſt to encourage every one. Signals were now thrown out from every part of the fort for the ſhips to come up again to their ſtations, in hopes they would have reflected (after the firſt impulſe of their panic was over) how cruel, as well as ſhameful, it was to leave their countrymen to the mercy of a barbarous enemy; and for that reaſon we made no doubt they would have attempted to cover the retreat of thoſe left behind, now they had ſecured their own; but we deceived ourſelves; and there never was a ſingle effort made, in the two days the Fort held out after this deſertion, to ſend a boat or veſſel to bring off any part of the garriſon.

All the 19th the enemy puſhed on their attack with great vigour, and having poſſeſſed themſelves of the church (not thirty yards or forty from the eaſt curtain of the fort) they galled the garriſon in a terrible manner, and killed and wounded a prodigious number:—In order to prevent this havock as much as poſſible, we got up a quantity of broad cloth in bales, with which we made traverſes along the curtains and baſtions; we fixed up likewiſe ſome bales of cotton againſt the parapets (which were very thin, and of brickwork only) to reſiſt the cannon balls, and did every thing in our power to baffle their attempt, and hold out, if poſſible, till the Prince George (a company's ſhip employed in the country) could drop down low enough to give us an opportunity of getting on board.—This ſhip, had, in the commencement of hoſtilities (on the 16th) been ordered up to Perrin's, to aſſiſt that redoubt, in caſe the enemy made a ſecond attack; but after they wheeled their army round towards Dumdumma, the party at that poſt was withdrawn, as no longer neceſſary, and the Prince George directed to fall down to her ſtation, oppoſite the ſouth eaſt baſtion of the fort:—She was in ſight about noon of the 19th, and was now the only glimmering of hope left us to eſcape falling into the hands of the Moors:—Our ſituation and diſtreſs was therefore communicated to the commander of her (Thomas Hague) and he poſitively directed to bring his ſhip as near the fort as he could, without loſs of time. Theſe inſtructions were tranſmitted on board by the hands of Meſſrs. Pearkes and Lewis, and we began now to entertain ſome expectation of making a general retreat, notwithſtanding what had happened in the morning; but it was otherwiſe determined by Providence; for by ſome ſtrange fatality the Prince George run aground a little above the factory (owing to the pilot's miſconduct, who loſt his preſence of mind) and was never after got off.

The enemy ſuſpended their attack as uſual when it grew dark; but the night was not leſs dreadful on that account; the Company's houſe, Mr. Cruttenden's, Mr. Nixon's, Doctor Knox's, and the marine yard, were now in flames, and exhibited a ſpectacle of unſpeakable terror. We were ſurrounded on all ſides by the Nabob's forces, which made a retreat by land impracticable; and we had not even the ſhadow of a proſpect to effect a retreat by water, after the Prince George run aground.

On the firſt appearance of dawn, on the 20th June, the beſiegers renewed their cannonading, —they puſhed the ſiege this morning with much more warmth and vigour than ever they had done; about eight o'clock they attempted to break into the factory by means of ſome windows in the eaſterly curtain, which we had neglected to brick up; while every body was intent on repel-

repelling this onſet, an alarm was ſpread, that the enemy were ſcaling the North Weſt Baſtion; part of the garriſon were thereupon detached to prevent this attempt, and the hotteſt fire enſued for above an hour, that we had yet ſeen, on both ſides: The beſiegers at length gave over their efforts, and retired with great loſs; but they continued to cannonade very briſkly from their batteries, and with their wall pieces and muſquetry did us infinite miſchief.

It was now eſteemed moſt eligible to endeavour to pacify the Nabob's reſentment, and ſupplicate his forgiveneſs, by the mediation of Monickchund (his principal miniſter) to whom Omichund, by Mr. Holwell's direction, wrote a letter, requeſting him to intercede in our behalf, and prevail upon Serajah Dowla to deſiſt from proſecuting the attack, and ſuffer us to carry on our buſineſs as uſual, under his protection: An Armenian undertook to carry the letter to Monickchund, and was ſuffered to paſs; but we never received any anſwer.

About noon there was a ſudden ceſſation of firing on the enemy's part, from whence we conceived ſome hopes, that Omichund's letter had been delivered, and was likely to produce the effects we wiſhed for.—About four o'clock a ſerjeant, ſtationed on the front gate of the factory, came to Mr. Holwell, and informed him, that one of the Nabob's people had ſtept into the ſtreet, and with his hand made ſigns for us to deſiſt firing:—This circumſtance gave great ſatisfaction, and ſeemed to promiſe a favourable end of our troubles and diſtreſs. Orders were accordingly given for a ſuſpenſion of hoſtilities on our part; but in leſs than half an hour intelligence was brought to Mr. Holwell, that the enemy were crouding in great numbers under the walls of the fort, to the eaſtward and ſouthward, whereupon he haſtened up himſelf to the ſouth eaſt baſtion to view their motions, directing every one to be at their quarters: By this time the beſiegers had been ſuffered to advance cloſe up to the foot of the walls, without a ſingle muſket being fired upon them; and Mr. Holwell (ſtill imagining every thing would be compromiſed) forbid all acts of hoſtility, notwithſtanding the enemy preſſed in ſuch multitudes upon us: By way of capitulation or conference he waved a flag of truce, which not being underſtood by the Moors, no regard was paid to it; and while this was tranſacted to the eaſtward, a body of the enemy ſcaled the north weſt baſtion, as did another party to the ſouthward (where the wall was low) and drove our people from their ſtations there.—As ſoon as this was known, a Dutchman of the artillery company broke open the back door of the factory, and with many others attempted to make their eſcape that way.—The beſiegers now poured in great numbers from all parts; and Mr. Holwell, finding how things were circumſtanced, and how impracticable it would be to drive the enemy out of the fort, now that ſo many had penetrated within the walls, with the weſt gate of it open, and conſidering that further oppoſition would not only be fruitleſs, but might be attended with bad conſequences to the garriſon, he and Captain Buchanan delivered up their ſwords to a Jemmautdar that had ſcaled the walls, and ſeemed to act with ſome authority among the Moors; this example was quickly followed by every body, who threw down their arms, and by that act ſurrendered themſelves priſoners at diſcretion. The factory was in a few minutes filled with the enemy, who, without loſs of time, began plundering every thing they could ſet their hands on; we were rifled of our watches, buckles, buttons, &c. but no further violence uſed to our perſons.—The bales of broad cloth, cheſts of coral, plate, and treaſure, laying in the apartments of the gentlemen who reſided in the factory, were broke open; and the Moors were wholly taken up in plundering till the Subah entered the fort, which was a little after five in the afternoon, carried in a kind of litter, his younger brother accompanied him in another. Serajah Dowla ſeemed aſtoniſhed to find ſo ſmall a garriſon, and immediately enquired for Mr. Drake, with whom he appeared much incenſed.—Mr. Holwell was carried to him with his hands bound, and upon complaining of that uſage, the Nabob gave orders for looſing his hands, and aſſured him, upon the faith of a ſoldier, that not a hair of our heads ſhould be hurt. The Nabob then held a kind of Durbar in the open area, ſitting in his litter, where Kiſſindaſs (who had been kept a priſoner by us during the ſiege) was ſent for, and publickly preſented with a ſeerpaw, or honorary dreſs. The Armenians and Portugueſe were ſet at liberty, and ſuffered to go to their own houſes. Between ſix and ſeven Serajah Dowla left the fort, the charge whereof was given to Monickchund, as governor: They ſearched every part of the houſe, to prevent treachery; and in the duſk of the evening the Muſſulmen ſung a thankſgiving to Allah, for the ſucceſs they had met with.

Hitherto we had fared extremely well; and as we had been left unmoleſted in our perſons ſo long, our apprehenſions of ill uſage and barbarity began to vaniſh; and we even entertained hopes, not only of getting our liberty, but being ſuffered to re-eſtabliſh our affairs, and carry on our buſineſs upon the terms the Subah had pointed out in the Muſchulka Meſſrs. Watts and Collet were made to ſign: But theſe hopes and expectations were very ſoon changed into as great a reverſe as human creatures ever felt; the circumſtance of the black hole affair; with all the horrors of that night, are ſo well known, and ſo much ſurpaſs any deſcription that words can paint it in, that I ſhall ſay no more upon that ſubject, than that a little before eight we were all of us directed to withdraw, and remain in a place contiguous to the black hole (where our ſoldiers were uſually confined in the ſtocks.)—While we were wondering what this ſhould mean, and laughing at the oddity of it, a party of fellows came and ordered us to walk into the place before mentioned, called the black hole, a room, or rather dungeon, about 18 feet long, and 14 wide, with only two holes, barricaded with iron bars, to let in air, which opened into a low piazza, where a guard was ſet: Into this hole we were forcibly crammed about eight o'clock in the evening, and the door immediately locked upon us.—The number of ſouls thruſt into this dungeon were near 150, among whom was one woman, and twelve of the wounded officers:

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The heat and ſtench preſently grew intolerable; ſome of our company expired very ſoon after being put in; others grew mad, and having loſt their ſenſes, died in a high delirium.—All we could urge to the guard ſet over us, could not prevail upon them either to ſet us at liberty or ſeparate us into different priſons, which we deſired, and offered money to obtain, but to no purpoſe; and when we were releaſed, at eight o'clock the next morning, only 22 came out alive.

The witneſs being aſked, Whether he remembered the terms of the Muchulka, ſigned between Mr. Watts and the Nabob? he ſaid, To the beſt of his remembrance it was, we ſhould carry on trade as other merchants, and without any exemption by our firmaund.

Being aſked, Whether he had reaſon to believe, that any money or other preſent was given or ordered by Kiſſindaſs for the protection given him? he ſaid, he did not know or believe that any money or preſent of any kind was given by Kiſſindaſs, or any of his friends, directly or indirectly, to the governor or any other member of the committee: He believed, that Mr. Drake really refuſed to deliver up Kiſſindaſs to the Nabob; and ſaid, that Omichund was a priſoner; but was not ſure whether Kiſſindaſs was kept in the factory againſt his conſent or not; that the reaſon of Omichund's being a priſoner, was, that Mr. Drake ſuſpected him of being a fomenter of the troubles: That the only offence with which the Nabob charged Kiſſindaſs, when he demanded him, was only, that he was a tenant of the Sircar; he did not know of any other tenant or officer of the country government that was protected at Calcutta.

The witneſs further ſaid, That he did not believe the Nabob had any intention of a maſſacre when he confined the Engliſh in the black hole; but that his intention was merely to confine them for the night, without knowing whether the priſon was great or ſmall; he ſaid, that Mr. Holwell was carried to the Nabob after he was releaſed from the black hole, and that he heard afterwards, that he and three or four other gentlemen were put in irons and ſent up the country, and very hardly treated; that thoſe who were not confined with Mr. Holwell were ſet at liberty; that he never heard the Nabob expreſſed the leaſt concern at the cataſtrophe that had happened in the black hole, but always underſtood that he received the account with total indifference; he likewiſe underſtood, that the Nabob ſent for Mr. Holwell before him, to diſcover where the treaſures were, and that he was extremely ſurpriſed to find the treaſury ſo low; there was not above £. 5,000. in the Company's treaſury: That at the reraking of Calcutta every thing found in the ſettlement was reſtored to thoſe who could make out their claims:—The army and navy did not touch any part of it; what was found was not of great value; there was a great deal of the Company's broad cloth, but very little private property.

The witneſs believed, that upon the loſs of Calcutta, there was not a man who was not ruined, excepting one gentleman, who had remitted part of his fortune home; and that the loſs of the company was very great; That it was ſuppoſed the reſtitution made afterwards was more than equivalent; a great quantity of the Company's goods were reſtored at the re-capture, both at Calcutta and other places; and whatever came into the hands of the Sircar was delivered up again.

The witneſs being aſked, What anſwer the Dutch and French factories returned to Serajah Dowla's application for aſſiſtance, as mentioned in a former part of his evidence? ſaid, He believed they declined to aſſiſt him.

Richard Becher, Eſquire, being again called to inform the Committee what he knew of the ſtate of the company's affairs, after the taking of Calcutta, ſaid, That in the Auguſt following he joined the preſident, and other gentlemen, at Fulta, where ſoon after they had intelligence that Admiral Watſon, with troops from Madraſs, was coming to their aſſiſtance; and when it was judged they might be nearly expected, the council deputed Mr. Watts, himſelf, and Mr. Mackett, to meet the Admiral in Ballaſore Road; that they met him in the month of December, he not arriving ſooner.

Being aſked, By whom Calcutta was retaken? he ſaid, That Admiral Watſon, and the men of war, proceeded up the river; and that troops were landed; but whether Admiral Watſon or the forces took it, he cannot anſwer.—That he was on board a ſhip that was following the ſquadron, and that the ſhips aſſiſted in taking it; and was no judge whether the place would ever have been retaken if Admiral Watſon had not been there; that the number of troops landed, amounted to 400 or 450 Europeans, and 17 or 1800 Sepoys; that the Moors left Calcutta the ſecond of January, 1757, and that there was no capitulation.

In anſwer to the queſtion, By whom was Calcutta taken poſſeſſion of? he replied, it was delivered over by Admiral Watſon to Mr. Drake.

Being aſked, Whether he remembered the firſt idea of ſetting up Meer Jaffier, and depoſing Serajah Dowla? he ſaid, he could not be poſitive; he believed about the month of May, 1757.

And being aſked, If he recollected what money was ſtipulated to be given to the Select Committee, in caſe that affair was brought about? he ſaid, That his ſituation confined him to Calcutta during the years 1757, 1758, and 1759, and therefore could not give any anſwer about tranſactions out of Calcutta.—That Mr. Watts, who was agent for the Company at Muxadavad, wrote word, that Meer Jaffier would make ſome conſideration to the navy, army, and others, who ſhould be inſtrumental in promoting his advancement to the Subahſhip, by way of donation.—That by others he underſtood at that time was Mr. Watts himſelf, who was upon the ſpot at Muxadavad; and that he could not recollect who was upon the ſpot beſides.

He ſaid, he was the firſt perſon who mentioned the reaſonableneſs and propriety, that the gentlemen of that committee, who really ſet the whole machine in motion, ſhould be likewiſe conſidered on that occaſion; and in conſequence, that Mr. Watts was wrote to, to the effect he had

had mentioned, viz. That as there were to be donations to the army, navy, &c. it was but reaſonable the other gentlemen ſhould be conſidered: He ſaid, That this letter does not appear upon the public proceedings.—That he ſhould conclude, that on the public ſervice, every thing was to be entered by the Select Committee; but this letter was not ſo conſidered; the Select Committee conſiſted of the Preſident, Mr. Drake, Colonel Clive, Mr. Watts, Major Kilpatrick, and himſelf; the Committee was appointed by the Court of Directors, and Colonel Clive was taken in as ſecond.

The Witneſs further informed your Committee, That ſo far from any ſum being ſtipulated to his knowledge, he did not know any thing of the ſum till ſome time after Meer Jaffier was eſtabliſhed in the Subahſhip.—That ſome time after, an account was ſent to the Committee, that Meer Jaffier, thought proper to make preſents to ſome particular gentlemen, and the Company had wrote word that they ſhould not interfere in any private donations from the Nabob to the Company's ſervants; that the ſums he knew of were to the Governor 2 Lack and 80,000 rupees; Colonel Clive the ſame; to the reſt of the gentlemen 2 lack and 40,000 each.—That he always underſtood the Admiral was conſidered as commander in chief of the navy, in a ſum ſeparate, which he does not know the amount of; that he eſteemed Colonel Clive as a member of the Committee, and did not eſteem Admiral Watſon as belonging to it; he believes one gentleman of the council in Bengal (Mr. Bottum) did ſend a ſmall ſum to the repreſentatives of Admiral Watſon, but he does not know what it was;—that he knows of no ſtipulation for particular ſums, but each of the council, who were not members of the Committee, received a Lack of Rupees; they were ſix or ſeven in number; an account was ſent in writing; it was a letter directed to the governor; he does not know who it was ſigned by, but believes by Mr. Watts, Colonel Clive, and Mr. Manningham; he conſidered it as a private letter, and therefore apprehended it was not entered—he knows of no other private donations, but has heard of ſuch; he cannot recollect from whom; and never diſcourſed with Mr. Watts upon the ſubject.

Being queſtioned, Whether, in the courſe of the negociation with Meer Jaffier, he knew any thing of two treaties of the ſame date, one real, and the other fictitious? the witneſs ſaid, That he apprehended the only treaty ſtood publicly upon the Company's records; that while this affair was upon the anvil, Mr. Watts employed a black merchant, reſiding at Calcutta (by name Omichund) who inſiſted on having no leſs a ſum than 20 lack of rupees from Meer Jaffier, in caſe of ſucceſs; that Mr. Watts repreſented to the gentlemen in Calcutta, that Meer Jaffier was ſo averſe to the allowing that ſum to Omichund, that he would rather all treaties ſhould be broke off, than conſent to it, or ſomething to that effect; and further repreſented, that he himſelf believed that Omichund was acting a double part, and would deceive both the Engliſh and Jaffier. In conſequence of theſe repreſentations, it was judged by the gentlemen, that Omichund was no way meriting that reward, and therefore they did not inſiſt on it, but thought it neceſſary, for the ſecurity and ſafety of the Company, to keep Omichund from the knowledge of their ſentiments; in conſequence of which two papers were tranſmitted to Mr. Watts; in one of which Omichund was mentioned, and in the other not; the deſign being to prevent the ill conſequences which might have enſued, if Omichund got a notion that he was not to have the money.—The witneſs believes the two papers were ſigned by Admiral Watſon and the gentlemen of the Committee.

Being aſked, Whether Admiral Watſon ſigned the fictitious agreement, or whether he, at that time, heard of Admiral Watſon's ſcrupleing, or refuſing to ſign? he ſaid, He thinks the fictitious treaty was ſent to him to be ſigned, but does not recollect whether that and the other treaty were tranſmitted to him by writing, or by meſſenger, or by whom; neither does he know whether he ſigned it or not, nor does he recollect that he heard of his refuſing to ſign it.

The witneſs further ſaid, in relation to the tranſaction with Omichund, That he thinks he heard that Omichund inſiſted upen the ſum of 5 per cent. on all the late Nabob's treaſures, excluſive of the ſum of 20 lacks; and threatened to betray the whole negotiation, if his demands were not complied with; that Mr. Watts repreſented the apprehenſions he had of his doing ſo, if he was not kept in the dark.

The Witneſs knows of no letter from Mr. Watts ſaying, he believed the Nabob's treaſures amounted to 40,000,000, and therefore diſſuading the Committee from agreeing to give 5 per cent. upon that ſum, but rather to give a ſpecified ſum.

The Witneſs being aſked, Whether he knew any thing of the additional article to the treaty with Jaffier Aly Khan, ſaid, he believed the 13th article, or ſomething ſimilar, was added; and does not recollect the circumſtances of tranſmitting the articles to the Directors.

It is 29 years ſince the Witneſs left England in the Company's ſervice.

The next Witneſs your Committee called, was Francis Sykes, Eſquire; who being requeſted to inform the Committee what he knew of the tranſaction with Omichund, ſaid, That in the year 1757 he was ſtationed at the ſubordinate factory, called Coſſimbuzar, in council; that he does not know particularly the terms demanded by Omichund; but being on a viſit to Mr. Watts, he found him under great anxiety; that he took him aſide, and told him Omichund had been threatening to betray them to Serajah Dowla, and would have them all murthered that night, unleſs he would give ſome aſſurances that the ſum promiſed him (by Mr. Watts) ſhould be made good;—that upon this viſit Mr. Watts further ſaid, That he was under the greateſt anxiety how to counteract the deſign of Omichund; the Witneſs could ſo far ſay, on his own part, that Omichund's conduct in the whole ſcene of that buſineſs was always ſuſpected, and that he had ſpies upon Mr. Watts's conduct—he apprehends

that

that nothing was reduced to paper at that time; that it was only talked of between Omichund and Mr. Watts, and believes it was only a verbal promiſe; he further ſaid, That Serajah Dowla was at Muxadavad at that time, and was viſited frequently by Mr. Watts—that he (the Witneſs) was in the ſervice about 20 years, from 1749 to 1769.

Your Committee next called upon

Sir George Pocock, to ſtate what circumſtances he knew concerning the attack upon Chandernagore:—Who informed your Committee, That he did not enter the river Bengal with Admiral Watſon, but that the place ſurrendered to that Admiral; that it was afterwards garriſoned by officers and ſeamen: And in June a detachment, of a lieutenant, 7 midſhipmen, and 50 private men, was ſent to Lord Clive.

The Witneſs was clearly of opinion, That the revolution could not have been brought about without the aſſiſtance of the King's ſhips then in the river; he does not recollect the number of the King's troops, but thinks there might be about 300.—The Company's troops aſſiſted in taking the place.

The right honourable Lord Clive, being deſired to relate to your Committe what he knew of the tranſaction of the above period, ſaid, That when he returned to England in 1755, the firſt time, the Court of Directors ſolicited him to go out again; they obtained for him his Majeſty's commiſſion of Lieutenant Colonel, and appointed him deputy governor of Fort Saint David, and to ſucceed to the government of Madraſs; but before he went to his government they wiſhed him to undertake an expedition of great importance, provided Colonel Scott (who had been ſtrongly recommended by the Duke of Cumberland) did not chuſe to undertake the expedition himſelf.—The intent of the expedition was to join the Mharattoes at Bombay, and in conjunction with them to attack the French, in the Subah of the Decan; for which he carried out three companies of the King's artillery, and 3 or 400 of the King's troops. That when he arrived at Bombay, in the beginning of the year 1756, there was a truce between the two nations, and Colonel Scott was dead.—He found there Admiral Watſon and Sir George Pocock with his ſquadron.—It was thought adviſeable that theſe troops ſhould not lie idle, and that there was a fair opportunity of taking Ghereah, a ſtrong fort, poſſeſſed by an Eaſtern Prince (Angria) and who, upon all occaſions, very much diſtreſſed the Company.—That he commanded the land troops on that expedition; and Mr. Watſon commanded by ſea.—The enterprize ſucceeded, and the prize money amounted to £. 150,000. That although he commanded the land forces, by virtue of his rank, he ſhared only as a captain of a man of war. Admiral Watſon thought his caſe ſo hard, that he very generouſly offered to make his ſhare equal to Sir George Pocock's; he thought himſelf as much obliged to him for the offer as if he had accepted it, but he declined the offer.—That after that he went to his deputy government at Fort Saint David, about April 1756; that in Auguſt 1756, he was called from thence to Madraſs, on the news of the capture of Calcutta.—It was long debated by the council what force ſhould be ſent to retake Calcutta, and who ſhould command it; it was decided in his favour, and the wiſh of every officer that he ſhould go upon that expedition.

In the beginning of October the troops were ready, and there was received on board Admiral Watſon's ſquadron, and other tranſports, about 700 Europeans belonging to the Company, and 1,200 Sepoys.—There was likewiſe a detachment of 250 of Adlercron's regiment, to ſerve as marines—That they embarked about the 15th of October; and after they had been ſometime at ſea, a council was held on board Admiral Watſon's ſhip, to ſettle the diſtribution of prize money; and it was propoſed it ſhould be ſettled upon the ſame plan as it was at Ghereah.—That he objected to it, becauſe he thought it bore too hard upon the military; and would not conſent to a diviſion of prize money upon any other diviſion than of two equal parts, that one half ſhould go to the military, and the other to the navy—This was agreed to; and they arrived in Balaſore road early in December; and it was agreed that the ſquadron ſhould go up the river to Calcutta; and he looks upon that attempt to be as daring and meritorious an attempt as ever was made in his Majeſty's ſea ſervice. That they met with ſome ſlight obſtructions till they approached near Calcutta.—When the ſquadron came within a few miles of Calcutta, he deſired Admiral Watſon would give orders for landing the company's troops; accordingly they were landed; and at the ſame time the ſhips went by water, the troops went by land.—The garriſon of Calcutta, upon the approach of the ſhips, and of the land forces, abandoned the fort after a few ſhot fired by the ſquadron, and a few returned by the fort.—That when he entered the fort at the head of the company's troops, Captain Coote preſented to him a commiſſion from Admiral Watſon, appointing him the governor of the fort.—That he denied any authority Admiral Watſon had to appoint an inferior officer in the King's ſervice governor of the fort, and told Captain Coote, if he diſobeyed his orders, he would put him under an arreſt.—Captain Coote obeyed, and deſired leave to acquaint Admiral Watſon with theſe particulars; upon which Admiral Watſon ſent Captain Speke to him, to know by what authority he took upon himſelf the command of that fort.—He anſwered, By the authority of his Majeſty's commiſſion, as Lieutenant Colonel, and being commander in chief of the land forces.—Captain Speke went on board with that meſſage; he returned, and brought for anſwer, That if he did not abandon the fort he ſhould be fired out.—In anſwer, he ſaid, he could not anſwer for the conſequences; but that he would not abandon the fort—upon which Captain Latham was ſent; and when the matter was talked over coolly, it was ſoon ſettled; for he told Captain Speke and Captain Latham repeatedly, that if Admiral Watſon would come and command himſelf, he had no manner of objection.—That Admiral

miral Watſon did come on ſhore; he delivered the keys of the garriſon into his hands, and he delivered them to the governor and council of Calcutta.

His Lordſhip further ſaid, That he was ſent from Madraſs with a power independant of the governor and council of Calcutta.—He commanded in Bengal as the King's officer and the Company's both.—The King's troops, when on ſhore, were under him; he was commander in chief of the Company's forces in Bengal, by a commiſſion from the governor and council of Madraſs, on his ſetting out on that expedition.—The governor and council of Madraſs looked on the government of Bengal as annihilated.—They thought, if he had not the independant command, the governor and council of Bengal would retain the troops which they thought neceſſary ſhould return to Madraſs.—He took the command as a military officer.—The governor and council of Calcutta put their troops under his orders.

That when he came to examine into the ſtate of the fort, he found it was not defenſible; it had no ditch; the baſtions did not deſerve the name of baſtions; the fort was ſurrounded by houſes, within 40 yards of the walls, which commanded the fortifications.—That he ſuggeſted to the governor and council the neceſſity of deſtroying them, and making a ditch round the fort without delay.—That he was convinced that a defenſive war would prove deſtructive.—He deſired Admiral Watſon would land the King's troops, to reinforce thoſe of the Company.—Great part of the forces that went out from Madraſs upon this expedition were not arrived. The Admiral landed the King's forces, amounting to 250 men; and thoſe, added to the Company's, might make 700 Europeans and 1200 Sepoys.—That with theſe troops they took the field, at about four miles from Calcutta, and encamped in a ſtrong ſituation, and entrenched themſelves in expectation of Serajah Dowla and his army, who were upon their march to Calcutta.—Serajah Dowla in a few days arrived; paſſed within about half a mile of their camp, and encamped his army at the back of Calcutta.—At the ſame time that he was marching to this ground, he made offers of treaty, and intimated to him by letters, that he wiſhed to conclude a peace with the Eaſt India Company:—He encamped about ſix o'clock in the evening, at the back of Calcutta.—By this time, the terror of his march had frightened away all the natives, and his Lordſhip ſaw, that if ſomething was not done, the ſquadron and land forces would ſoon be ſtarved out of the country. That he ſent Mr. Walſh and Mr. Scrafton to the Nabob, about ſeven that evening; they returned about eleven, and aſſured him, they thought the Nabob was not ſincere in his intentions for peace, and that he meant treachery.—That he went immediately on board Admiral Watſon's ſhip, and repreſented to him the neceſſity of attacking the Nabob without delay; and deſired the aſſiſtance of 4 or 500 ſailors to carry the ammunition, which he aſſented to: The ſailors were landed about one o'clock in the morning, about two the troops were under arms, and about four they marched to the attack of the Nabob's camp.—It was his intentions to have ſeized his cannon, and attacked his head quarters; but when day light appeared, there aroſe ſo thick a fog, that it was impoſſible for the army to ſee three yards before them, which continued til they had marched through the whole army.—He cannot aſcertain the loſs the enemy ſuffered, but it was reported very conſiderable.—Our loſs amounted to about 150 killed and wounded.—That they continued their march to the fort, where the troops were allowed an hour to reſt, and ordered back to camp.—In the evening Serajah Dowla and his army got to about 8 or 10 miles from them; he ſent a letter to him and Admiral Watſon, that he deſired to treat with them; upon which it was agreed to receive his propoſals without delay; and a treaty was concluded, which is upon the Company's records.—The reaſon that it was not more advantageous than it was, was that they had juſt received advice of a war with France, and the French had within the garriſon of Chandernagore almoſt as many Europeans as they had in the field; and if they had joined Serajah Dowla before the concluſion of the peace, they muſt have been undone; for there wanted only ſome intelligent perſon to adviſe him not to fight at all, and they ſhould have been ruined.—While this treaty was carrying on, the French ſent a deputation to propoſe neutrality, it being long debated, whether a neutrality ſhould be accepted of.—Serajah Dowla forbid the Engliſh to attack the French, and declared if they did, he would become their enemy.—That he had no doubt but he would become their enemy the firſt opportunity that offered, and that he meant, with their aſſiſtance, to drive them out of Bengal.—He ſupplied them with money publickly, and ſent 1500 men to be ready to give them their aſſiſtance.—During this time, a reinforcement of troops was received from Bombay; and it was taken into conſideration by the Committee, whether they ſhould undertake the attack of Chandernagore, at the riſk of diſpleaſing the Nabob, and having his army to encounter.—That the members of this Committee were, Mr. Drake, himſelf, Major Kilpatrick, and Mr. Becher:—Mr. Becher gave his opinion for a neutrality, Major Kilpatrick for a neutrality;—his Lordſhip gave his opinion for the attack of the place; Mr. Drake gave an opinion that nobody could make any thing of: Major Kilpatrick then aſked him, Whether he thought the forces and ſquadron could attack Chandernagore, and the Nabob's army, at the ſame time?—he ſaid, he thought they could; upon which Major Kilpatrick deſired to withdraw his opinion, and to be of his Lordſhip's.—They voted Mr. Drake's no opinion at all; and Major Kilpatrick and he, being the majority, a letter was wrote to Admiral Watſon, deſiring him to co-operate in the attack on Chandernagore.—The land forces marched firſt, and beſet the place, made themſelves maſters of the out-works, and erected two batteries, one about 120 yards off the walls, of ſix 32 pounders, and another of three 32 pounders, about 150 yards off the walls.—By this time the ſquadron came up the river—That they ſurmounted difficulties, which he believed no other ſhips could have done; and it is impoſſible for him to do the officers of the ſquadron juſtice upon that occaſion:—The place ſurrendered to them, and it was in a

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great meaſure taken by them; but his Lordſhip does believe, that the place would have been taken by the army, if the ſquadron had not come up: It muſt have fallen into their hands, but not ſo ſoon.—And he muſt ſay, That he thinks, if the land forces and Sepoys could have been landed in Calcutta, every event which has happened, would have happened without the aſſiſtance of the fleet. That after Chandernagore was reſolved to be attacked, he repeatedly ſaid to the Committee, as well as to others, That they could not ſtop there, but muſt go further: That having eſtabliſhed themſelves by force, and not by conſent of the Nabob, he would endeavour by force to drive them out again.—That they had numberleſs proofs of his intentions; upon many records; and his lordſhip ſaid, He did ſuggeſt to Admiral Watſon and Sir George Pocock, as well as to the Committe, the neceſſity of a revolution;—Mr. Watſon and the gentlemen of the Committee agreed upon the neceſſity of it; and the management of that revolution was, with conſent of the Committee, left to Mr. Watts and him.—Mr. Watts was reſident at Muxadavad; he correſponded with him in cypher; and his lordſhip ſent the intelligence to the governor and committee; and Mr. Watſon was always conſulted, but declined being a member of that Committee.—Great diſatisfaction ariſing among Serajah Dowla's troops, a favourable opportunity offered, and Meer Jaffier was pitched upon to be the perſon to place in the room of Serajah Dowla; in conſequence of which, a treaty was formed, which, amongſt others, conſiſted of the following articles: That £. 1,200,000 ſhould be given to the Company;—£.600,000 to the European ſufferers; £.600,000 to the navy and army; about £. 250,000 to the natives of the country; and about £. 100,000 to the Armenians.—When this was ſettled, his lordſhip remembers, that Mr. Becher ſuggeſted to the Committee, that he thought that Committee, who managed the great machine of government, was intitled to ſome conſideration, as well as the navy, and army.—In conſequence of which, Mr. Watts was wrote to upon the ſubject; but what that conſideration was, he never knew till after the battle of Plaſſy; and when he was informed of it by Mr. Watts, he thought it too much, and propoſed that the Council ſhould have a ſhare in it; the ſums received were, he believed as Mr. Becher had ſtated.—Upon this being known, Mr. Watſon applied, that he was intitled to a ſhare in that money.—He agreed in opinion with the gentlemen, when this application was made: That Mr. Watſon was not one of the Committee; but at the ſame time did juſtice to his ſervices, and propoſed to the gentlemen, to contribute as much as would make his ſhare equal to the governor's and his own: About 3 or 4 conſented to it, but the reſt would not. That he ſent the proportion of the ſhare he had received.—Some years ago the heirs of Admiral Watſon filed a bill in chancery, wherein it was ſet forth as a right; he denied that right, but never had any objection to add his proportion to the reſt, if that claim was withdrawn.—The money was paid by inſtallments, in the ſame proportion as to the army and navy; and he ſent his proportion of the firſt inſtallment to Mr. Pocock, for Admiral Watſon.—The law-ſuit dropt, and he has heard no more of it ſince.—His Lordſhip obſerved, That at that time there were no covenants exiſting; the Company's ſervants were at liberty to receive preſents; they always had received preſents; and his idea of preſents is as follows: When preſents are received as the price of ſervices to the nation, to the Company, and to that Prince who beſtowed thoſe preſents; when they are not exacted from him by compulſion; when he is in a ſtate of independance, and can do with his money what he pleaſes; and when they are not received to the diſadvantage of the Company; he holds preſents ſo received not diſhonourable: But when they are received from a dependant Prince; when they are received for no ſervices whatever; and when they are received not voluntarily; he holds the receipt of ſuch preſents diſhonourable.—He never made the leaſt ſecret of the preſents he had received; he acquainted the Court of Directors with it; and they, who are his maſters, and were the only perſons who had a right to object to his receiving thoſe preſents, approved of it.

His Lordſhip then read to the Committee the following extract from a printed pamphlet, intituled, "A letter to the proprietors of the Eaſt India ſtock, from Lord Clive," together with two letters thereunto annexed.

Every thing being agreed on between Meer Jaffier and the ſecret Committee, we marched the army to meet the Nabob, whom we entirely defeated:—His death followed ſoon after, and Meer Jaffier was in a few days in poſſeſſion of the government, and of a revenue of three millions and a half ſterling per annum.—The one half of the ſecret Committee being then preſent at the capital, and a report made by the Nabob's miniſters of the ſtate of the treaſury, it was ſettled, that half the ſum ſtipulated by treaty ſhould be paid in three months, and the other half in three years; all conditionally, that we ſupported him in the government.—The Nabob then, agreeable to the known and uſual cuſtom of Eaſtern princes, made preſents, both to thoſe of his own court, and ſuch of the Engliſh who by their rank and abilities had been inſtrumental in the happy ſucceſs of ſo hazardous an enterprize, ſuitable to the rank and dignity of a great prince.—I was one amongſt the many who benefited by his favour; I never ſought to conceal it; but declared publicly in my letters to the ſecret Committee of the India directors, that the Nabob's generoſity had made my fortune eaſy, and that the Company's welfare was now my only motive for ſtaying in India. What injuſtice was this to the Company? They could expect no more than what was ſtipulated in the treaty: Or what injunction was I under to refuſe a preſent from him, who had the power to make me one, as the reward of honourable ſervices? I know of none; I had ſurely myſelf a particular claim, by having devoted myſelf to the Company's military ſervice, and neglected all commercial advantages. What reaſon can then be given, or what pretence could the Company have to expect, that I, after having riſked my life ſo often in their ſervice, ſhould deny myſelf the only honourable opportunity that ever offered, of acquiring a fortune without

out prejudice to them, who, it is evident, would not have had more for my having had leſs? When the Company had acquired a million and a half Sterling, and a revenue of near £. 100,000 per annum, from the ſucceſs of their forces under my command; when ample reſtoration had been made to thoſe whoſe fortunes ſuffered by the calamity of Calcutta; and when individuals had, in conſequence of that ſucceſs, acquired large eſtates; what would the world have ſaid, had I come home, and reſted upon the generoſity of the preſent Court of Directors?—It is well known to every gentleman in Bengal, that the honour of my country, and the intereſt of the Company, were the principles that governed all my actions; and that, had I only taken the advantageous opportunities that preſented themſelves, by my being commander in chief, and at the head of a victorious army, and what by the cuſtom of that country I was intitled to, the Jaghire itſelf, great as it is, would have been an object ſcarce worth my conſideration.

The city of Muxadavad is as extenſive, populous, and rich, as the city of London; with this difference, that there are individuals in the firſt, poſſeſſing infinitely greater property than any in the laſt city: Theſe, as well as other men of property, made me the greateſt offers (which nevertheleſs are uſual upon ſuch occaſions, and what they expected would have been required) and had I accepted theſe offers, I might have been in poſſeſſion of millions, which the preſent Court of Directors could not have diſpoſſeſſed me of: but preferring the reputation of the Engliſh nation, the intereſt of the Nabob, and the advantage of the Company, to all pecuniary conſiderations, I refuſed all offers that were made me, not only then, but to the laſt hour of my continuance in the Company's ſervice in Bengal; and do challenge friend or enemy to bring one ſingle inſtance of my being influenced by intereſted motives to the Company's diſadvantage, or to do any act that could reflect diſhonour to my country, or the Company, in any one action of my adminiſtation, either as governor or commanding officer.—I little expected ever to have had my conduct impeached, or to have received ſuch treatment from the Court of Directors, eſpecially after the many public and honourable teſtimonies of approbation I had received.

Copy of Company's letter to Colonel Clive, March 8, 1758.

SIR,

Our ſentiments of gratitude, for the many great ſervices you have rendered to this Company; together with the thanks of the general court, have been hitherto conveyed through the channel of our general letters; but the late extraordinary and unexpected revolution in Bengal, in which you had ſo great a ſhare of action, both in the cabinet and in the field, merits our more particular regard; and we do accordingly embrace this opportunity of returning you our moſt ſincere and hearty thanks for the zeal, good conduct, and intrepidity, which you have ſo eminently exerted on this glorious occaſion, as well as for the great and ſolid advantages reſulting therefrom to the Eaſt India Company: We earneſtly wiſh your health may permit your continuance in India, for ſuch further term as will give you an opportunity of ſecuring the foundation you have laid; as likewiſe to give your aſſiſtance in putting the Company's mercantile and civil affairs on a proper and advantageous footing, upon the plans now tranſmitted. For this purpoſe, as well as in conſideration of your eminent ſervices, we have appointed you governor and preſident of Fort William in Bengal, and its dependencies, in the manner mentioned in the general letter, by this conveyance; to which we have annexed an additional allowance of £. 1,000 a year, as a teſtimony of our great regard for you.

Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated March 8, 1758.

Paragraph the 23d. In our letter of the 3d inſtant, we lamented the ſituation of the many unhappy people who had loſt their property on the capture of Fort William, and had no relief from the treaty concluded with the late Nabob: In compaſſion to their ſufferings, we recommended your applying to him on their behalf for relief, if you had the leaſt probability of ſucceeding. It is with great pleaſure we find that the late happy revolution, and your care, have produced what we had very little reaſon to expect from the late Nabob, a grant from the preſent Nabob of ſuch large ſums, to make good the loſſes of the ſeveral inhabitants, as we are ſatisfied are much more than ſufficient to indemnify them, even with intereſt thereon. Although the Nabob gives the Company a crore of rupees, yet, when the immenſe expence of maintaining the ſettlement at Fulta, the military charges of our troops from Fort Saint George and Bombay, and the hazard thoſe preſidencies have been expoſed to by drawing them off from thence; the charges of fortifications and rebuildings, replacing ſtores, increaſe of our garriſon, the loſs of a ſeaſon's inveſtments, if not more, and many other obvious particulars, are taken into the account, it will appear that the Company will ſtill be conſiderable ſufferers. It is highly reaſonable therefore, if the ſeveral inhabitants are paid out of the money ſtipulated in the treaty with the Nabob for that purpoſe, the full amount of their reſpective loſſes, together with intereſt thereon, that all the ſurplus ſhould be applied to the Company's uſe: We ſhall expect to hear you have acted in this manner, and that ſuch ſurplus has been accordingly depoſited in our caſh; and we direct that you obſerve this as a rule for your conduct in the diſtribution of any further ſums of money on this account. We do not intend by this to break in upon any ſums of money which have been given by the Nabob to particular perſons, by way of free gift, or gratuity, for their ſervices. It is the ſurplus of the ſums we mean, which are agreed to be paid by the Nabob in the 5th, 6th, and 7th articles of the treaty with him. It is thought proper here to acquaint you, that ſuch ſurpluſſes, whatever they are, we propoſe to expend in ſuch manner, as will tend to the general utility and ſecurity of the ſettlement; they are therefore to be reſerved for our farther

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orders; and you are hereby directed to tranſmit us, for our information, exact accou ts of every perſon's loſs, whether Engliſh or other inhabitants, on the late capture of Fort William, and what has been paid to each of them in particular, by way of indemnification for the ſame, out of the monies granted by the Nabob for that purpoſe.

As to the fictitious treaty, Lord Clive informed your Committee, That when Mr. Watts had nearly accompliſhed the means of carrying that revolution into execution, he acquainted him, by letter, that a freſh difficulty had ſtarted; that Omichund had inſiſted upon 5 per cent. on all the Nabob's treaſures, and 30 lack in money; and threatened, if he did not comply with that demand, he would immediately acquaint Serajah Dowla with what was going on, and Mr. Watts ſhould be put to death:—That when he received this advice, he thought art and policy warrantable in defeating the purpoſes of ſuch a villain; and that his Lordſhip himſelf formed the plan of the fictitious treaty, to which the Committee conſented; it was ſent to Admiral Watſon, who objected to the ſigning of it; but to the beſt of his remembrance gave the gentleman who carried it (Mr. Luſhington) leave to ſign his name upon it:—That his Lordſhip never made any ſecret of it; he thinks it warrantable in ſuch a caſe, and would do it again a hundred times: He had no intereſted motive in doing it, and did it with a deſign of diſappointing the expectations of a rapacious man:—That he never heard that Mr. Watts had made a promiſe to Omichund of any money, directly or indirectly:—That when he was laſt abroad, he had given the ſame account, which is entered in the public proceedings:—That Omichund was employed only as an agent to Mr. Watts, as having moſt knowledge of Serajah Dowla's Court; and had commiſſion to deal with 3 or 4 more of the Court:—Omichund's only chance of obtaining retribution was depending on this treaty:—He did not believe that Omichund was perſonally known to Meer Jaffier, but through Mr. Watts.

When the army marched, Meer Jaffier had promiſed that he and his ſon would join them with a large force at Cutwa:—When they arrived there, they ſaw no appearance of force to join them; but received letters from Meer Jaffier, informing him, that the Nabob had ſuſpected his deſign, and made him ſwear on the Koran, that he would not act againſt him; and therefore he could not give the promiſed aſſiſtance; but that when they met Serajah Dowla in the field, he would then act:—At the ſame time Omichund received two or three letters from the Nabob's camp, that the affair was diſcovered, and that Meer Jaffier and the Nabob were one.—That his Lordſhip was much puzzled; for he thought it extremely hazardous to paſs a river, which is only fordable in one place, march 150 miles up the country, and riſk a battle, when, if a defeat enſued, not one man would have returned to tell it. In this ſituation he called a council of war; and the queſtion he put was, Whether they ſhould croſs the river, and attack Serajah Dowla with their own force alone, or wait for further intelligence? Every member gave their opinions againſt the attack, till they had received further intelligence, except Captains Coote and Grant. His Lordſhip obſerved, this was the only council of war that ever he held, and if he had abided by that council, it would have been the ruin of the Eaſt-India Company. After about 24 hours mature conſideration, his Lordſhip ſaid, he took upon himſelf to break through the opinion of the council, and ordered the army to croſs the river:—He did not recollect any memorial from Captain Coote upon that occaſion, nor was he of rank ſufficient at that time to have any influence upon his conduct; and whatever he did upon that occaſion, he did without receiving advice from any one.

Lord Clive further ſaid, in explanation of the aforegoing evidence, That Calcutta was taken by Serajah Dowla in June 1756, upon the pretence of a black merchant being protected by the Engliſh: That Mr. Watts was two or three months employed in the negociation of the revolution; and the correſpondence was carried on entirely between himſelf and Mr. Watts; that he did not know exactly the amount of the treaſure of Serajah Dowla, but believed about three or four millions; that the final terms of the agreement between Meer Jaffier and Mr. Watts were not agreed on till a few days before the march of the army; that Mr. Luſhington was the perſon who ſigned Admiral Watſon's name, by his Lordſhip's order.

John Walſh, Eſquire, being here called to give an account of what he knew of the fictitious treaty, ſaid, That he and Mr. Luſhington went together to Calcutta, with the treaty; a letter from Colonel Clive was carried by him and Mr. Luſhington from the French gardens, where the army then lay, to the Committee, and he returned with the treaties ſigned in the evening; that he cannot recollect whether he went to Admiral Watſon, nor now recollect the whole tranſaction:—He only recollects that the treaties were ſent and brought back again: That his idea had always been, that Mr. Watſon refuſed to ſign the fictitious treaty, but permitted Mr. Luſhington to do it for him: That the fictitious treaty was called Lol Coggedge, from being wrote on red paper; and he remembered Omichund was very earneſt in his enquiry after that particular paper, after the Nabob was put upon the Muſnud.

Lord Clive further acquainted the Committee, That all the letters in cypher, which paſſed between Mr. Watts and himſelf, are not entered in the country correſpondence, or any where elſe; that he had got ſome of the letters, but did not know whether he had the letter wherein mention is made of Omichund's demand of 5 per cent. on the treaſures, and 30 lack; that the fictitious treaty, to the beſt of his remembrance, ſtated 30 lack and 5 per cent. upon the treaſures:—It might be 50 lack for ought he knows:—That he believes the letter relating to the donation to the army and navy is entered or mentioned in one of his letters:—He did not recollect what he paid to the heirs of Admiral Watſon:—That he wrote to the ſecret Committee

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in England, ſtating donations to the navy and army, but not the donations to the Committee.—He wrote a private letter to Mr. Paine then chairman, in which he mentioned the donations to the Committee; that he mentioned in his general letter, that the Nabob's bounty had made his fortune eaſy:—He knew of no ſtipulation by Mr. Watts, for 50 lack, or any other ſum beſides the donation to the army and navy and ſelect Committee; if there was any ſuch ſum, it was without his conſent or knowledge

In regard to the fate of Serajah Dowla, his Lordſhip ſaid, He had been informed, that he fled and took ſhelter in a fackier's houſe, whoſe noſe and ears he had cut off upon a former occaſion. That there was a brother of Meer Jaffier's at Kajamaul (a ſmall diſtance from the place where he took refuge) that this fackier ſent immediate notice to him, that he had Serajah Dowla in his houſe, and he ſhould keep him till he could ſeize him; that the Nabob's brother immediately ſet out with a few attendants, and ſeized him; and that he was brought from thence to the city, and immediately put to death by Meerham, Meer Jaffier's ſon; it is ſaid, without the father's knowledge; that his Lordſhip knew nothing of it till the next day, when the Nabob made him acquainted with it, and apologized for his conduct, by ſaying that he had raiſed a mutiny among his troops; and this was all his Lordſhip knew of the matter.

Lord Clive further ſaid, in regard to the fictitious treaty, That he did not recollect whether Mr. Luſhington brought it back with Mr. Watſon's name to it; to the beſt of his remembrance, Mr. Luſhington told him, that Admiral Watſon gave him leave to ſign his name to the fictitious treaty; he did not recollect whether Mr. Watſon's ſeal was put to it, but believes that Mr. Watſon's name and a ſeal were put to both the treaties before they were diſpatched to Mr. Watts, he is not certain whether Mr. Luſhington ſigned in his preſence at Calcutta or the French Gardens. Roy Doulub did not receive 5 per cent. on all the money paid, but on ſome of it, particularly not on that which was paid to the army and navy.—Roy Doulub was one of the Nabob's Generals.

His Lordſhip being aſked, What might be the particular value in money or jewels received by him and ſuch other gentlemen as he may recollect? ſaid, He received about 16 lack of rupees clear, after deducting commiſſion and all other articles; that he received no jewels, but all in money; that he believed Mr. Watts might receive altogether about 8 lack; Mr. Walſh about 5; there were 3 or 4 more, but could not recollect the ſums: that he thinks Mr. Scraſton had 2 lack, but is not certain: Theſe donations were given excluſive of the ſums ſtipulated for the gentlemen of the Committee, council, army, and navy:—That the ſhare he received as commander in chief, amounted to about 2 lack; Major Kilpatrick, he believed, had about 3 or 4 lack, excluſive of the ſums ſtipulated for the army and Committee; Mr. Luſhington had ſomething very trifling, about 50,000 rupees; Captain Grant of Adlercron's regiment had one lack.

His Lordſhip alſo ſaid, That theſe preſents were not paid down at the time, but by inſtallments; and in a ſubſequent part of his Lordſhip's evidence (which is placed here in order to lay the ſubject matter more connectedly before the houſe) being aſked, by what inſtallments the preſents, over and above thoſe ſtipulated for the army, navy, council, and committee, were paid? he ſaid, that he knew of no agreement, but they were paid half down, and half in about 15 months, to the beſt of his remembrance:—And being further queſtioned, whether, when the firſt half was paid down, his Lordſhip had any expectation of the remainder? he ſaid, he had, from the intelligence of Mr. Watts, who acquainted him that the preſent for his ſhare would amount to 20 lack, but he received only 16. That lands to the amount of £. 700,000 a year were mortgaged for payment of the remainder of the money ſtipulated for by treaty; the mortgage he believed was made about December 1757, or the January following: That Sir George Pocock applied to the Governor and Council by letter, to deſire that they would advance to the navy their remaining half of the 50 lack given to the navy and army, deſiring that the Governor and Council would make ſuch a deduction as they thought reaſonable for the riſk of advancing the money:—That ſome ſharp letters paſſed upon the occaſion; and to the beſt of his remembrance, he was the only perſon of that Council who objected to that requeſt being complied with; and then, after it had been complied with, he made the ſame requeſt in favour of the army, and not before; that the money deducted, to the beſt of his remembrance, was 5 lack, the remaining 20 lack was paid down by the Company for the navy and army.

As to the 13th article of the treaty with Meer Jaffier, his Lordſhip never recollected till he was laſt in India, that there was a 13th article, 12 only appearing in the directors books; that he ſaw no more at the India houſe or in Mr. Scrafton's book, and underſtood that particular article had been ſuppreſſed by Mr. Vanſittart, in order, as his Lordſhip apprehended, that Mr. Vanſittart might juſtify his proceedings in the ſecond revolution, as the Company ſtood bound, by that article, in alliance with Meer Jaffier; and his Lordſhip acknowledged writing to the Directors on the 15th December 1762, that there was no ſuch article to the beſt of his knowledge.—And being aſked at what time it became neceſſary for Mr. Vanſittart to ſuppreſs the 13th article? he ſaid, Upon the affair of the Dutch, the Court of Directors enquired whether there was a 13th article, and Mr. Vanſittart ſuppreſſed it as he ſuppoſes.

John Walſh, Eſquire, being again called upon to explain further the affair of the 13th article, ſaid, That it is the only one in the treaty binding upon the Engliſh, and the only thing that could properly have been ſigned by them; that he imagines the copy of it was neglected to be taken in the treaty ſent home; the treaty without it is inſerted in the ſelect Committee proceedings as a tranſlate from the Perſian, the 12 articles are all in Perſian, and only the 13th in Engliſh. The Engliſh ſigned Perſian articles as far as 12, which were prefixed to the Engliſh article.

The

The witneſs further ſaid, That ſome little time after a publication of Mr. Vanſittart's, in which he had treated the 13th article as never to have ſubſiſted; he had a converſation with that gentleman, and at that time ſhewed him the words of that 13th article, and he confeſſed his knowledge, that that article did ſubſiſt:—That he by no means charged Mr. Vanſittart with having ſuppreſſed that article, for he believed no copy of it remained among the Company's papers at Calcutta: That he looked over Lord Clive's papers, and there ſaw a copy of the treaty with the 13th article, in Mr. Luſhington's writing; and that he acquainted Mr. Rous, the deputy chairman, with the 13th article.

Mr. Holt (from the Eaſt India houſe) being called upon to relate what he knew relative to this treaty, and the concealment of the 13th article, ſaid, That Mr. Gillam, who had the collecting thoſe treaties for parliament, is dead, but that he found a paper in his hand writing containing as follows:

"In the treaty here refered to, was an article containing the condition of the part of the "Company; it was not tranſmitted from India to the Company, but is to be found in the 12th "page of the appendix to the D. memorial; and as there is no reaſon to doubt the authenticity "of it, it is ſubjoined to the treaty with the Nabob Meer Jaffier."

The witneſs further ſaid, That the treaty now upon the table was copied by Mr. Cray, a clerk in the office about the year 1767:—And being aſked, whether the original, from which it was copied, was lodged among the Company's papers? he ſaid, That in the year 1758, a treaty, conſiſting of 12 articles, and dated the 5th of July 1757, was received by the Company in a letter from the ſelect Committee at Bengal, to the ſecret Committee of the Court of Directors, bearing date the 14th of July 1757; and the 13th article was added when the treaties were called for by the Houſe of Commons in 1767.

The witneſs produced the minutes of the Engliſh and Dutch commiſſaries in 1762, out of which were read the entries marked in the appendix, N° 4.

Mr. Walſh was then called upon to explain further the fact, reſpecting his having found a copy of the treaty with Meer Jaffier, wrote in Mr. Luſhington's hand writing (who was, at the time of making the treaty, ſecretary to Lord Clive) to which there was a 13th article, and what he did in conſequence? and ſaid, that he certainly ſaw among Lord Clive's papers a copy of this treaty, and is very well convinced it was in Mr. Luſhington's hand writing:—It contained the 13th article:—That he thought likewiſe that he took a copy of that 13th article, and ſhewed it to the then chairman and deputy chairman, who he believed were Mr. Rous, and Mr. Dudley, but was not very clear; he could not ſay whether this was before the papers were laid before the Houſe of Commons, nor upon what occaſion he carried it to the chairman and deputy chairman; he believed it was whilſt Lord Clive was abroad, and was certain it was not ſhewed the chairman and deputy chairman in their public capacity.

The witneſs further ſaid, That in the copy in Mr. Luſhington's hand writing, the 13th article was by no means diſtinguiſhed from the 12 others—it was numbered 13th:—What facilitated him to recollect that, he ſaid, was by having recurred to a copy in his hands of that copy, which he ſuppoſed to be Mr. Luſhington's.

The witneſs being aſked, Whether the firſt time he ſaw the 13th article was the time when he carried it to the chairman and deputy chairman? he ſaid, He certainly had ſeen it before; he never had an idea, but that that article exiſted:—He could only ſpeak upon ſuppoſition why it was not tranſmitted with the other 12 articles:—The treaty being ſent down to Calcutta to be returned with great diſpatch, it is likely that after the ſigning, no copy was taken of it by the gentlemen at Calcutta, who had the tranſmitting of theſe papers to the Company.

Being aſked, Whether he recollected any other inſtance of an inſtrument of ſuch importance being delivered over without a copy taken? he ſaid, He recollected many inſtances of omiſſions —And in anſwer to whether he knew how Mr. Luſhington came by his copy? he ſaid, Becauſe he was not ſo negligent as others; and that he ſuppoſes Mr. Luſhington took his copy before it was tranſmitted to the Nabob:—He believed Lord Clive certainly tranſmitted to the Company accounts of that treaty, but not a copy.

Being aſked, If he recollected from what paper Lord Clive copied the 13th article that was ſent to Mr. Biſdom? he ſaid, He had no doubt from that copy which he ſuppoſed to be Mr. Luſhington's

Being further queſtioned as to the manner of executing theſe inſtruments, and of exchanging them between the contracting parties; he ſaid, He concluded only one inſtrument was ſigned by the gentlemen at Calcutta, which was that delivered to the Nabob; and he imagined that inſtrument contained 13 articles, and that delivered by the Nabob to the Company contained only 12; and that the inſtrument containing the 13 articles was ſigned by the Company alone, and not by the Nabob; and that of 12 articles by the Nabob alone. He further ſaid, That he imagined Lord Clive's letter to the Dutch governor, reſpecting the 13th article, was not entered in the public proceedings at Calcutta:—And being aſked why not, it being a public proceeding of a very important nature? he anſwered, That all he could ſay was, that Lord Clive having an independant command from the Gentlemen of Calcutta, did not in every circumſtance tranſmit the particulars of his proceedings to them; and that in thoſe times there might have been great irregularity in the offices, there being few ſervants:—He further ſaid, That he did not know that this tranſaction was not entered upon the books of the Company.

In the courſe of the above proceeding your Committee read the ſeveral letters, and other papers marked in the appendix, N° 5.

The

The next witneſs your Committee called upon was

Captain Brereton, who was lieutenant with Admiral Watſon in the Kent, in the year 1757; and being aſked, Whether he had heard Admiral Watſon make any declarations concerning the treaty that was to deceive Omichund? ſaid, That he had often heard the Admiral ſpeak of it; that it was propoſed to him to ſign a fictitious treaty to deceive Omichund of 30 lack, which he refuſed to do, as diſhonourable to him as an officer, and an affront to propoſe it to him: That it was then propoſed ſomebody ſhould ſign it for him, which he alſo refuſed, and ſaid, he would waſh his hands of it, he would have nothing to do with it, he was a ſtranger to deception, they might do as they pleaſed.

Being aſked, Whether in the converſation he had had with the Admiral on that ſubject, he had ever heard him ſay, that he authorized any perſon to ſign the treaty for him? the witneſs ſaid, he believed not; that he had often heard him ſay, he had not; and would not authorize any body to do it.

And being further aſked, whether he believed Admiral Watſon ever put his ſeal to it? he ſaid, He believed not; he was ſure he had too good a heart.

Being further aſked, if he knew whether Admiral Watſon, before his death, had ever heard of his name being put to the fictitious treaty? he ſaid, He had; it was communicated to him by Captain Martin, on his death bed; and that the ſecret Committee had agreed to ſhare the 30 lack, ſtipulated in the agreement for Omichund, among themſelves, and excluding the Admiral of his ſhare, becauſe he had not ſigned the treaty:—The admiral ſaid, that he always thought the tranſaction diſhonourable, and as there was ſo much iniquity among mankind, he did not wiſh to ſtay any longer among them; this was juſt before his death, which he believes was the 16th of Auguſt 1757:—The witneſs ſaid, He was not preſent at this converſation, but in the next room; and that it was communicated to him by Captain Martin (who is now dead) the moment he came out of the room.

Being aſked, if he was ſure Admiral Watſon did not put his ſeal to it? he anſwered, That he had heard him ſay ſo in repeated converſations:—He further ſaid, That he never heard that Admiral Watſon applied to the ſelect Committee for a part of this money; but that after his death, his executors did.

Being aſked, if he ever heard Admiral Watſon mention who was the perſon that propoſed to him to ſign the fictitious treaty? ſaid, The Admiral did not mention the gentleman's name; but ſaid (with a ſneer) it was a member of the ſecret Committee.

As to the Admiral's ſigning the real treaty, he never heard him mention it particularly; that he had heard him ſay he thought it an extraordinary meaſure to depoſe a man they had ſo lately made a ſolemn treaty with; but that as he was inſtructed by the King to afford the Eaſt India Company aſſiſtance in their affairs, he aſſiſted them with his forces according to his duty; and he always underſtood, from the Admiral's converſation, that he did ſign the real treaty, but never heard him ſay whether he approved it or not.

The witneſs further ſaid, That he heard of this treaty immediately after the attack of Cutwa, which was the beginning of June, and before the battle of Plaſſy, and it was then talked of, that Admiral Watſon's name was put to the fictitious treaty; that the Admiral was then at Calcutta, and that he took to his bed about the 8th of Auguſt following, as he believed.—That the time when Admiral Watſon made the declaration "that it was extraordinary to depoſe the Nabob" was at breakfaſt, about the latter end of May, when he gave the witneſs orders to prepare the men who were to act with the artillery on ſhore; the men who formed the detachment on that occaſion were from the King's ſhips, and were ſent on board the Bridgewater to Chandernagore, to join the army; and, as the witneſs underſtood, they acted as artillery during all that campaign.

The witneſs being aſked, whether he was with the Admiral when he firſt heard the report of his name being put to the fictitious treaty? ſaid, He was every other day upon duty with the Admiral, as the officer who received his orders; that he never took the liberty with the Admiral to mention the report to him, but that he had heard the Admiral ſay it had been put.

Being aſked, whether, between the report of the Admiral's name being put, and his taking to his bed, was not nearly two months, and whether he believed that the firſt time the Admiral heard of it was in the converſation referred to with Captain Martin? he ſaid, He believed it was about two months, and that the Admiral might know it before that converſation, but then he was ſure he knew it: That it is impoſſible he can recollect for 15 years diſtance the preciſe time of the converſation, when the admiral ſaid he knew his name had been put to the fictitious treaty.

Being further aſked, whether when he uſed the words of the Admiral, that he declared he always thought the tranſaction diſhonourable; he meant that it was diſhonourable to make a falſe treaty to deceive Omichund, or to uſe the Admiral's hand and ſeal to the treaty when he did not put it himſelf? he ſaid, He underſtood it that it was diſhonourable to make a falſe treaty to deceive Omichund.—And being further aſked, whether before Captain Martin communicated the ſubject of Admiral Watſon's name being put to that treaty, it was not a matter of ſuſpicion only? ſaid, He believed it might.

Being alſo aſked, what he underſtood the Admiral to mean when he ſaid "he was a ſtranger to "deception, they might do as they pleaſed?" he ſaid, In the tranſaction of the Company's affairs:—And if he underſtood Admiral Watſon to mean by thoſe words that they might put his name to the fictitious treaty if they pleaſed, he ſaid, He did not; he could not conceive that the

Admiral would give his conſent to any tranſaction that he held diſhonourable, that ſhould inſinuate his approbation of deception.

In the courſe of the above examination the witneſs was queſtioned as to the following points, which the Committee reſerved to the laſt to avoid confuſion in the ſtate of the evidence; viz. If it had not been for the aſſiſtance of his Majeſty's ſhips and troops he thought the Eaſt India Company could have ſucceeded in their different enterprizes, and particularly in effecting the revolution in favour of Meer Jaffier? He believed not.

Whether the witneſs was not, at the time of Admiral Watſon's illneſs, ſuſpended his Majeſty's ſervice? He never was ſuſpended.

By what accident he became commanding officer under the Admiral? Captain Speke was wounded in the attack of Chandernagore, the firſt lieutenant was killed, the ſecond lieutenant was appointed governor of Chandernagore after the capture, the third lieutenant was wounded and he died of his wounds, the fourth lieutenant was wounded and ſick aſhore, the witneſs was fifth, and then became commanding officer.

The next evidence that relates to the fictitious treaty, and which your Committee therefore think proper to lay before the houſe in this place, is that of

John Cooke, Eſquire, who was before mentioned to have been ſecretary to the ſelect Committee in Bengal, in the year 1757; and he informed the Committee, that he knew there was ſuch a treaty; that after the battle of Plaſſy he waited upon Admiral Watſon with a meſſage from the ſelect Committee; that among other things this fictitious treaty was mentioned in converſation; that the Admiral ſaid he had not ſigned it (ſhrugging up his ſhoulders) but had left them to do as they pleaſed, alluding, as the witneſs ſuppoſed, to Colonel Clive and the ſelect Committee. This converſation, as the witneſs thought, was in July, and the Admiral was then in good health and ſpirits.

The witneſs further ſaid, That he had no doubt that the Admiral knew his name was to it; and he underſtood, from what dropped from him, that he had ſecretly permitted his name to be uſed; he believed he did not publicly give his conſent, but had known of it, and made no objection; he did not conceive his name could have been put without his permiſſion: The converſation was only between the Admiral and himſelf; the Admiral, in that converſation, certainly did not expreſs any reſentment or ſurprize that his name was put. And being queſtioned again, as to the purport of that converſation? he ſaid, If he remembered right, when the circumſtance of the fictitious treaty was mentioned, he ſhrugged up his ſhoulders, and ſaid (laughingly) that he had not ſigned it, but that he had left it to them to do as they pleaſed.

Being aſked, whether it was from this circumſtance that he collected the Admiral knew of his name being put? he ſaid, it was, and from this circumſtance only: And he further ſaid, It gave him no ſurprize that an officer of Admiral Watſon's rank had agreed to have his name put to a treaty he could not ſign, becauſe he was convinced the Admiral knew the motives for which ſuch a fictitious treaty was made; and that, though he would not ſign it, he had no objection to Omichund being lulled into a ſecurity, and preventing the whole deſign from being diſcovered and defeated.

Being aſked, if Admiral Watſon told him ſo much? he ſaid, By no means; theſe were his reaſons why he was not ſurprized.—He further ſaid, That the Admiral's conſent to having his name put to the fictitious treaty was never communicated to the ſelect Committee.

As to the real treaty, the witneſs ſaid, He had no doubt that the Admiral ſigned it, and if he remembered right, he ſealed it; he was ſure he ſigned it, but to the beſt of his memory he was not preſent; but he was certain, becauſe the treaty was ſent down by Mr. Watts, for the Admiral and Committee to execute, and then to be returned to him with all imaginable diſpatch; and the treaty was executed by the Committee and Admiral, and returned accordingly: To the beſt of his remembrance he did not ſee the real treaty after the Admiral had ſigned it, but thought he did ſee it after the Committee had ſigned it, before it was ſent to the Admiral; and that, to the beſt of his recollection, there was one article in that which was returned to Meer Jaffier, which was not in the treaty which Meer Jaffier had executed and ſent to the Committee, to be kept by them: That it occurs to him the treaties were in Perſian and Engliſh, in one he is ſure there were both Perſian and Engliſh articles:—That there was an additional article in one of the treaties, which the Committee and the Admiral ſigned, and that article was in Engliſh; that he believed only one copy of the treaty was ſigned by Meer Jaffier, which was left with the Committee, and the other copy was ſigned by the Committee, and ſent to the Nabob, and that he underſtood the difference in the treaties were known, and really thought that a copy of the treaty ſent to Meer Jaffier was kept; he knew no reaſon why it was not ſent to the Company; he imagined it was:—That he was Secretary, but that there were clerks to make copies; that it was his buſineſs to give the clerks orders what to copy, and to keep the copies; and that if there had been a copy, it would naturally have been in the Secretary's office, under his management.

The witneſs being ſhewn the proceedings of the Select Commitee, 19 May 1757, in which it is ordered, that the treaty with Meer Jaffier, then ſigned by the Committee and Admiral Watſon, ſhould be entered after the proceedings; and being aſked, if he apprehended he could have allowed his clerks to omit entering the 13th article, when it appeared all the other articles were entered after the proceedings? he ſaid, it appeared to him that the tranſlation entered there was of that treaty which Meer Jaffier ſigned, in which the additional article was not inſerted—he could account for it no other way.

Being

Being aſked, if that treaty, ſigned by Meer Jaffier, was in his cuſtody? he ſaid, it was in the office.—He further ſaid, the treaties were ſent to Admiral Watſon immediately after they were ſigned, and thought only one part came back to the office, and the other was immediately diſpatched up the country.

Being aſked, How often, in the courſe of his office, he thought he copied the treaty as it now ſtands in the books? He ſaid, he did not know, nor did he think he ever copied it himſelf.

In regard to Admiral Watſon's expreſſing any diſpleaſere at the meaſure taken for depoſing Serajah Dowla, he recollects no ſuch converſation, nor did he ever hear he was diſpleaſed on that account.

Sir Eyre Coote being called upon to give an account of the tranſactions in Bengal, in the year 1757, that came within his knowledge, ſaid; That he was at that time Captain of the 39th regiment doing duty on board the fleet commanded by Admiral Watſon; that he was a member of the council of war, previous to the battle of Plaſſy, upon the 21ſt of June 1757; that Colonel Clive informed the Council he found he could not depend on Meer Jaffier for any thing more than ſtanding neuter, in caſe the army came to an action with the Nabob; that Monſieur Law, with a body of French was then within three days march of joining the Nabob, whoſe army, by the beſt intelligence he could get, was about 50,000 men; and that he called the Council together for their opinion, whether, in thoſe circumſtances, it would be prudent to come to an immediate action with the Nabob, or fortify themſelves where they were, and remain till the monſoon was over, and the Mharattoes could be brought into the country to join us; the queſtion being then put, began with the preſident and eldeſt members, whoſe opinions were,

Againſt coming to an immediate action.

Lieut. Colonel Clive.
Major James Fitzpatrick.
Major Archibald Grant.
Captain Frederick Gaupp.
Captain Thomas Rumbold.
Captain Chriſtian Fiſcher.
Captain Charles Palmer.
Captain La Boom.
Captain R. Waggoner.
Captain Corneil.
Captain Lieut. William Jennings.
Captain Lieut. Fra^s. Parſhaw.
Captain Lieut. Moltair.

For coming to an immediate action.

Major Eyre Coote.
Captain Alexander Grant.
Captain John Cudmore.
Captain Andrew Armſtrong.
Captain Geo. Muir.
Captain Robert Campbell.
Captain Lieut. Peter Caſtairs.

The reaſons for the witneſs's opinion in this council were, That having hitherto met with nothing but ſucceſs, which had conſequently given great ſpirits to the men, any delay might caſt a damp.—2dly, That the arrival of Monſieur Law would not only ſtrengthen the Nabob's army, and add vigour to their councils, but likewiſe weaken our force conſiderably, as the number of Frenchmen we had entered into our ſervice, after the capture of Chandernagore, would undoubtedly deſert to their countrymen upon every opportunity.—3dly, The diſtance from Calcutta was ſo great, that all communication from thence would certainly be cut off, and therefore there was no reaſon to hope for ſupplies, and conſequently the army muſt be ſoon reduced to the greateſt diſtreſs.—The Witneſs further ſaid, That if it ſhould be impracticable to come to an immediate action, his opinion then was, for returning to Calcutta, the conſequence of which muſt have been diſgrace to the army, and inevitable deſtruction to the Company's affairs.

The Witneſs further ſaid, That about an hour after the Council broke up, Colonel Clive informed him, unaſked (Captain Robert Campbell, to the beſt of his recollection, was with him at the time) that notwithſtanding the reſolution of the council of war, he intended to march the next morning, and accordingly gave orders for the army to hold themſelves in readineſs, leaving a ſubaltern officer's command in the fort of Cutwa; that the army conſiſted of 750 men in battalion, including 100 Topazzes, 2,100 Sepoys, and 150 artillery, including 50 ſailors; of theſe about 150, beſides ſailors, might be of the King's troops.

Sir Eyre Coote here read a deſcription of the battle of Plaſſy, and was afterwards deſired, by the Committee, to give an account of the attack upon Chandernagore, in order to ſhew the difference of loſs when acting againſt European or Indian forces; and it appeared, that the loſs was much more conſiderable, at the attack of Chandernagore.

The Witneſs being aſked, Whether, at the attack of the Nabob's camp, near Calcutta, Lord Clive's Secretary, Aid de Camp, and Captain of grenadiers, were not killed? ſaid they were, and a great many other officers, and a great many men.

Being aſked, Whether he preſented any memorial to Lord Clive after the council of war held at Cutwa? ſaid, he never did; on the contrary, Lord Clive ſpoke to him firſt, unasked, of the army marching, without his having mentioned a word to him upon the ſubject.

Being asked, Whether the ſailors, at the battle of Plaſſy, belonged to the Company's ſhips, or to the men of war? he ſaid, He believed ſome were from the Indiamen, but the officers who commanded them were belonging to the men of war.—The garriſon of Chandernagore was compoſed intirely of ſeamen from the King's ſhips; he could not tell whether the ſeamen from the Indiamen were not firſt turned over on board the King's ſhips; but he found a minute on his journal, wherein it was agreed, that the officers and ſailors belonging to the ſquadron, which

were

were with the army on the expedition to Muxadavad, were not to ſhare with the army in the prize money, but with the navy.

The witneſs being deſired to give his opinion, whether, without the aſſiſtance of the King's troops and ſhips in the whole of the tranſactions in 1757, the enterprizes would have ſucceeded? he ſaid, He had no idea that they could:—And whether the army under Colonel Clive alone could have taken Chandernagore without the aſſiſtance of the navy and King's troops? he ſaid, He thought the probability was againſt them.

Several letters and other papers relative to the above tranſactions were read, for which the houſe is referred to the appendix, N° 6.

Lord Clive obſerved, that in a former part of his evidence he had made a miſtake in reſpect to the number of the council of war, who on the 21ſt of June voted for the immediate attack of Serajah Dowla, and ſaid, he might very eaſily have been led into that miſtake, the event having happened 15 years ago, and he not having conſulted a ſingle record from that time to this: that although he might have informed Captain Coote of his reſolution to attack Serajah Dowla, notwithſtanding the opinion of that council of war, he did imagine that he had not concluded upon the whole plan till 24 hours after, becauſe the troops did not croſs the river to make that attack till the 22d of June in the evening, and the diſcourſe between Captain Coote and him was the 21ſt in the morning.—His Lordſhip alſo obſerved, with regard to another part of his evidence, that he certainly ſhould not have declared that Admiral Watſon had conſented to have his name put to the fictitious treaty, if he had not underſtood ſo from Mr Luſhington, but that he would have ordered his name to be put, whether he had conſented or not.

Your Committee take the ſame occaſion to inſert the following extract of a letter, which a member of the Committee informed the Committee he had lately read in Lord Clive's letter book, from his Lordſhip to the ſelect Committee at Fort Saint George, the 12th of September 1757.

"It is with the deepeſt concern I acquaint you of Admiral Watſon's death; his zeal for the "ſervice of the Company, and the extraordinary ſucceſs it was crowned with, both at Gheriah "and in the expedition, will make his memory, particularly in India, ſurvive to lateſt ages."

The next point of evidence to which your Committee proceeded, was the manner in which Meer Jaffier gave Lord Clive his Jaghire. And,

Francis Sykes, Eſquire, a member of the houſe, being requeſted to relate what he knew of that tranſaction, informed your Committee. That he was appointed reſident at the Nabob's court on the leave of abſence of Mr. Haſtings; to the beſt of his remembrance it was in June or July 1758; that he was with the Nabob upon buſineſs relative to the Company, when the Nabob ſpeaking to him of Lord Clive's expedition againſt the Shawzadda, mentioned the ſenſe he entertained of Lord Clive's conduct towards him, and likewiſe in reducing the Shawzadda to ſuch neceſſity as to apply to his Lordſhip to put him under the Engliſh protection:—He mentioned alſo, that he owed his government to Colonel Clive before, and this was the ſecond time he was indebted to him for it; that he had been a means of having honours conferred on Colonel Clive, in creating him an Omrah of the empire, but that he had given him nothing to ſupport thoſe honours; he had frequently had it in his thoughts, but had never entered upon it ſeriouſly till now; that he had thoughts of giving him a Jaghire in the Patna province, but found it would be attended with inconvenience to the officers of his government, and that Juggutſeat had fallen upon a method of obviating thoſe difficulties, by giving him the quit rent ariſing from the lands ceded to the Company to the Southward of Calcutta; that he thought it would interfere the leaſt with his government, and ſtood the cleareſt in relation to the Company's affairs.

The witneſs ſaid, That to the beſt of his remembrance he mentioned to the Nabob, that he thought it was a large ſum, but the Nabob told him, that it was very little adequate to the ſervices he had received from the Colonel, but more eſpecially for his behaviour upon the capture of Muxadavad, when the whole inhabitants expected to be put under contribution, and that none of them had experienced a conduct of that kind, for that their perſons, as well as their properties, were entirely ſecured to them, that the Nabob alſo deſired at that meeting, that the witneſs would acquaint him when he heard of the Colonel's coming down the country, and in the mean time he would prepare an inſtrument called the Jaghire; that he would give the Colonel the meeting, and deſired the witneſs's attendance at the time it was to be preſented; that the witneſs did attend him, in company with Juggutſeat and other perſons, and met the Colonel two miles to the north of the city, when, after ſome converſation betwixt the Nabob and Colonel Clive, the Nabob retired, and Juggutſeat, in the preſence of the witneſs, and he thinks of Mr. Scrafton, preſented him, from the Nabob, with the Jaghire.

The witneſs did not mention who was preſent at this converſation, nor did he take any notes of it at the time:—No Engliſh were preſent except himſelf; the converſation was in the Mooriſh language, which he thought he underſtood ſufficient for moſt converſations.—He further ſaid, He did not acquaint any perſon, by letter or otherwiſe, about that time, nor does he know of any notification given to the Company of this grant.

Being aſked, whether the quit rent, granted by this Jaghire, was not payable by the Company? he ſaid, It was payable by the Company to the Nabob, and he did not know how it was paid after the grant.—He further ſaid, That he had frequently mentioned this converſation with the Nabob ſince he came to England, and undoubtedly did the ſame in India; it was a public act, and he believed was given to Mr. Haſtings to tranſlate into Engliſh:—The amount of the Jaghire was reckoned about £. 30,000 a year; that he had never any inſtructions from Lord Clive,

or

or any other in his name, directly or indirectly, to apply for this Jaghire, nor did he ever hear, till of late, that Lord Clive ever made application to the Nabob for this Jaghire; he ſaid, at the ſame time he muſt undoubtedly have read Lord Clive's letter to the proprietors upon that ſubject.

Being aſked, whether he conceived the inſtrument delivered by Juggutſeat to Lord Clive to be the Dewan's Sunnud, or an order from the Nabob to the Company to pay the quit rent? he ſaid, Whether it was one or the other he could not anſwer; that he only ſaw it incloſed in a ſilken bag, and it was not opened at the time it was preſented to Colonel Clive, and he never ſaw it opened.

For further letters and papers relating to the above tranſactions, your Committee refer to the appendix, N° 7.

Lord Clive, in evidence to the ſame point, informed your Committee, that the firſt letter he ever wrote about a Jaghire, was, to the beſt of his remembrance, on the 31ſt of January 1759, to Juggutſeat, informing him that the Nabob had made him an Omrah without a Jaghire; in anſwer to which, he replied, that the Nabob never granted Jaghires in Bengal; that Orixa was too poor, but that he might have one in Bahar; and his Lordſhip declared, upon his honour, that he never applied for any Jaghire, directly or indirectly, after that period; and that when the Nabob preſented him the Jaghire (which was near ſix months afterwards) he did not know what that Jaghire was, had not the leaſt idea of the amount of it, nor of its being the quit rent upon the Company's lands; and that he did believe the Nabob gave him that Jaghire in conſequence of the ſervices he had rendered him, which have been ſtated by Mr. Sykes.

That having looked upon the Nabob's anſwer as an evaſive one, and that he was not inclined to comply with his requeſt he never wrote or thought more upon the ſubject, until he received a ſecond letter from Juggutſeat, in anſwer to his firſt, after the ſucceſs againſt the King's ſon, mentioning that the Nabob had turned the thing in his mind, and was willing to grant him a Jaghire in Bengal, but the nature of it, where or what value it was to be, he was intirely ignorant of, till the patent explained it; Juggutſeat was a banker, and a man of great influence and weight with the Nabob.

Your Committee here read a letter from the Seats to Lord Clive, received 4 June 1759, which is annexed in the appendix, N° 8.

His Lordſhip being aſked, whether he received the benefit of the Jaghire from the time it was granted? he ſaid, He had received it from July 1759 to this day.

Being further aſked, whether application was not made to the Nabob Meer Jaffier, for a grant of lands, to the northward of Calcutta, to the amount of £. 12,000 a year, for the behalf of the Company; and that the Nabob refuſed this grant till the Company complied with his requeſt, to lend him two lack of rupees, and that the Company were alſo obliged to make preſents to ſeveral of the principal officers about him? he ſaid, It was ſo; and he believed that tranſaction was not above ſix, eight, or ten, months after the battle of Plaſſy.

Being further aſked, if he knew that Meer Jaffier about the time of granting the Jaghire was ſurrounded by his troops, who had mutinied, becauſe he could not pay them? he ſaid, He certainly knew it.—That the matter of fact was, there were great arrears due to the army by Serajah Dowla, as well as by Meer Jaffier, amounting to three or four millions ſterling; that it is the cuſtom of that country, never to pay the army a fourth part of what is promiſed them, and it is only in time of diſtreſs they can get paid at all, and for that reaſon the troops always behave ſo ill.

Being asked, Whether he recollected that before the grant of the jaghire, the Nabob's jewels, goods, and furniture, were publickly ſold in order to make good the money he had agreed by treaty to pay the Company? he ſaid, he had been informed, that the Nabob's jewels amounted to near a million ſterling; about £. 50,000, worth of the worſt of them were ſent to Calcutta, and ſold there as part of the treaty money; that ſome goods were alſo to be ſold, but the parties differing as to the value, the Nabob took the goods back again, and paid for them in money.

Being asked, Whether the Nabob had not granted aſſignments upon his revenues, particularly the revenues of Burdwan, for payment of the money to the Company, and to the Select Committee, as ſettled by the treaty? he ſaid, The Nabob made aſſignments of lands for fulfilling all the articles of the treaty, and alſo for the Committee money, and that there were other lands aſſigned likewiſe in the nature of a mortgage.

His Lordſhip being asked, On whoſe application he was made an Omrah? he ſaid, at Meer Jaffier's; but he applied to Meer Jaffier to make the application to the Mogul.

Some days after this evidence was given, Lord Clive acquainted the Committee, That upon recollection he finds he was miſtaken in the anſwer he made to the above queſtion, and his anſwer to it now is, "By Meer Jaffier's to the Mogul, and without any application "on his Lordſhip's part."

Lord Clive, in further explanation of the evidence of Sir Eyre Coote, ſtated in a former part of the report, went on to relate; that on the 22d June 1757, in the evening, the army croſſed the river, and marched all night, amidſt inceſſant rains, until they reached Plaſſy Grove; and early in the morning the army of Serajah Dowla attacked them in that ſituation.—That as the deſcription of the battle had been already given in part by Sir Eyre Coote, he ſhould only obſerve, that its being attended with ſo little bloodſhed, aroſe from two cauſes: Firſt, The army was ſheltered by ſo high a bank, that the heavy artillery of the enemy could not poſſibly do them much miſchief; the other was, That Serajah Dowla had not confidence in his army, nor his army any

confidence in him, and therefore they did not do their duty upon that occaſion.—His Lordſhip proceeded to relate, that after the army was routed, Serajah Dowla, for the ſake of expedition, fled to the city upon an elephant, which he reached that night thirty miles from the field of battle.—That the troops purſued the routed army about nine miles, to a place called Doudpaur; and in the evening Meer Jaffier ſent him word, that he, and many more of the great officers, and a very conſiderable part of the army, were in expectation of his orders.—That he ſent Meſſrs. Watts and Scraſton to wait upon him; and he came to him the next morning, accompanied by his ſon, made many apologies to him for the non-performance of his agreement to join him, and ſaid, his fate was in his hands. That he aſſured Meer Jaffier that the Engliſh would moſt religiouſly perform their treaty, and adviſed him to purſue Serajah Dowla without delay, and he would follow with the Engliſh army. That when Serajah Dowla arrived at the city, his palace was full of treaſure; but with all that treaſure, he could not purchaſe the confidence of his army; he was employed in laviſhing conſiderable ſums among his troops, to engage them to another battle, but to no purpoſe.—About twelve at night the fatal news was brought him of Meer Jaffier's arrival at the city, cloſely followed by the Engliſh army; he then in deſpair gave up all for loſt, and made his eſcape out of one of the palace windows, with only two or three attendants and took refuge in the Packier's houſe, as mentioned in a former part of this evidence.

That the Engliſh army having encamped within about ſix miles of Muxadavad; his Lordſhip ſent Meſſrs. Watts and Walſh to congratulate Meer Jaffier upon his ſucceſs, and to know the time when he ſhould enter the city; in conſequence of which, the day was fixed upon, and he entered the city at the head of 200 Europeans and 500 Sepoys.—That the inhabitants, who were ſpectators upon that occaſion, muſt have amounted to ſome hundred thouſands; and if they had had an inclination to have deſtroyed the Europeans, they might have done it with ſticks and ſtones. On that day, continued his Lordſhip, being under no kind of reſtraint, but that of my own conſcience, I might have become too rich for a ſubject; but I had fixed upon that period to accompliſh all my views whatever, and from that period to this hour, which is a ſpace of fifteen years, I have not benefited myſelf directly or indirectly the value of one ſhilling, the Jaghire excepted; I have been placed in great and eminent ſtations, ſurrounded with temptations; the civil and military power were united in me; a circumſtance which has never happened to any other man before that time, or ſince: The Committee will therefore judge whether I have been moderate or immoderate in the purſuit of riches.

Lord Clive went on to relate that a few days after his arrival at the city, Meer Jaffier was placed on the muſnet, and proclaimed Nabob of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and a day was then fixed upon to conſider the ſtate of the Nabob's treaſures, and to ſee how far he could comply with the treaty immediately; and after that ſtate was known, this matter was left to be decided by the Seats, two men of immenſe wealth, and great influence, and it was agreed that half ſhould be paid down, and the other half in three years.—That at this meeting was Omichund; and when the real treaty came to be read, the indignation and reſentment expreſſed in that man's countenance, bars all deſcription—He ſaid, "This cannot be the treaty, it was a red treaty that I ſaw."—That his Lordſhip replied, "Yes, Omichund, but this is a white treaty."—That this important buſineſs being accompliſhed, he returned to Calcutta with the army, and the Nabob ſoon began to feel his own greatneſs, and manifeſted evident deſigns of ſhaking off all dependance upon the Engliſh, and of evading the fulfilling the reſt of the treaty. That he diſmiſſed from his ſervice thoſe great men who had been the inſtruments of his greatneſs, and he put to death the only brother of Serajah Dowla.—That as ſoon as the rains were over, he took the field without the Company's aſſiſtance to quaſh three rebellions; but when he came ſeriouſly to conſider of his ſituation, he thought proper to call upon the Engliſh for their aſſiſtance; and that the witneſs marched immediately to join him.—That at the city he had a meeting with the diſcontented chiefs, when he engaged to protect them in their perſons, and to uſe his influence to get them reſtored to favour. That this was eaſily accompliſhed, and he then inſiſted that he ſhould immediately pay down that part of the treaty money, which was then due, and that he ſhould aſſign over lands ſufficient in mortgage to ſecure the reſt. That no difficulty was found in ſubduing all his enemies, except Ramnarrain, who was the Nabob of Bahar; and at the head of a great army, and would not acknowledge Meer Jaffier without the Engliſh ſecurity; which being given, and a promiſe made, that he ſhould remain in his government, he came to the Nabob, and paid his obedience. That the country being now juſt ſettled, he returned to Calcutta, with an intention to embark for the Carnatick, and taking the firſt honourable opportunity of returning to his native country; but in the interim the ſhips arrived from Europe, which brought out the very ſtrange appointment of four governors, which was called a rotation government, becauſe one governor was only to be as ſuch for three months.—He had not the honour to be appointed one of thoſe governors.—Upon which, the gentleman who had that honour, as well as the reſt of the council, ſent him the following letter.

SIR,

Our moſt ſerious attention has been devoted to the commands of our honourable employers per Hardwick, naming a rotation of governors for the future management of their affairs at this ſettlement, and having duly weighed the nature of this regulation, with all its attending circumſtances, a ſincere conviction of its being, in our preſent ſituation and circumſtances, repugnant to the true intereſt of our honourable maſters, and the welfare of the ſettlement in general, obliges us (though with the utmoſt reſpect and deference) to believe, that had our employers been apprized

prized of the preſent ſtate of their affairs in this kingdom, they would have placed the preſidentſhip in [illegible] one perſon, as the cleareſt and eaſieſt method of conducting their concerns, as well as preſerving and maintaining the weight and influence the late happy revolution has given us, with the Soubah of theſe provinces, on which influence, at the preſent period, the intereſt and welfare of the Company depends in the higheſt degree at this ſettlement. The difficulties we may be liable to by a rotation in the executive part of government, with its conſequences, are ſufficiently obvious in our preſent ſtate of affairs; we will however mention only a few points. The treaty of the Nabob not perfected in all its branches, the poſſeſſions of the lands incomplete, the ſettlement in no poſture of defence, the French conſiderably reinforced with military and a fleet, their deſigns with reſpect to Bengal hitherto unknown, and the impoſſibility of impreſſing a proper idea of this divided power in the minds of the Soubah and others, of this kingdom, who have, at all times, been accuſtomed to the government of a ſingle perſon; a little reflection will introduce many more, and clearly evince the neceſſity of this addreſs.

The gentlemen nominated governors in the honourable Company's commands per Hardwick, have the higheſt ſenſe of gratitude for the honour conferred on them by our employers in their appointment, but deem themſelves in duty bound at this juncture of affairs to wave all perſonal honours and advantages, and declare all their ſentiments, that a rotation in the executive part of government, for the foregoing reaſons, would be extremely prejudicial to the real intereſt of the Company; in which opinion we unanimouſly concur, and judge it for the welfare of our honourable employers, and of the ſettlement in general, to deviate in this inſtance from the commands of our honourable maſters, and fix the preſidentſhip in a ſingle perſon, till we hear further from Europe.

Your being named as head of the general Committee (in the letter of the 3d of Auguſt laſt) eſtabliſhing at that time, for conducting the Company's affairs in Bengal, your eminent ſervices, abilities, and merit, together with your ſuperior weight and influence with the preſent Soubah and his officers, are motives which have great force with us on this occaſion, and all concur in pointing out you, at the preſent, beſt able to render our honourable employers neceſſary ſervice at this juncture, till they ſhall make their further pleaſure known by the appointment of a preſident for their affairs here.

Theſe reaſons urge us to make you an offer of being preſident of the Company's affairs in Bengal, till a perſon is appointed by the honourable Company; and we flatter ourſelves you will be induced to accept of our offer from your wonted regard to the intereſt of our honourable employers, and zeal for the welfare of their affairs, which we doubt not you are as well as ourſelves convinced, will be much prejudiced by a rotation in the executive part of government.

We wait your reply, and have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient,
and moſt humble ſervants,
Wm. Watts,
C. Manningham,
Richd. Becher,
M. Collet,
M. Mackett,
Tho. Boddan.

Fort William,
26 June, 1758.

Lord Clive ſaid, He did not heſitate one moment to accept of this requeſt; and ſoon after he received his appointment from the Court of Directors themſelves, in conſequence of the ſucceſs at Plaſſy. That ſoon after this appointment, he took into the moſt ſerious conſideration the ſituation of affairs upon the coaſt of Coromandel: Mr. Lally was arrived with ſuch a force as threatened not only the deſtruction of all the ſettlements there, but of all the Eaſt India Company's poſſeſſions, and nothing ſaved Madraſs from ſharing the fate of Fort St. David, at that time, but their want of money, which gave time for ſtrengthening and reinforcing the place. That however Madraſs was beſieged, and no words that he can command can do juſtice to the gallant behaviour of Lord Pigot, General Lawrence, Colonel Draper, General Caillaud, Major Brereton, &c.—That he thought it was his duty to contribute his mite towards the deſtruction of the French, and therefore he projected the ſcheme of depriving the French of the northern Sircars (whoſe revenues were computed to amount to £. 400,000 a year) contrary to the inclinations of his whole council.—That this expedition ſucceeded completely, for the French were totally driven out by Colonel Ford, with the Company's troops, whoſe conduct and gallantry upon that occaſion was equal, if not ſuperior, to any thing that had happened during the whole courſe of the war.—That in the mean time he was called up the country with the remaining part of the forces left behind, to raiſe the ſiege of Patna, which was beſieged by the King's ſon.—The ſiege being raiſed, and the King's ſon being drove out of the country, he returned to his government in Calcutta, where he had been but a very ſhort time before he received intelligence that the Dutch were forming a great armament from Batavia.—It was thought to be deſtined for Bengal; and it was reported that the Nabob had given them encouragement to come there; that in the month of Auguſt 1759, a Dutch ſhip arrived in the river full of troops, which circumſtance brought matters to a certainty. And here his Lordſhip obſerved will be ſeen the uſe of the double government; for ſoon after arrived ſix other Dutch ſhips, having on board in all 700 Europeans, and 800 Mallays.—His Lordſhip ſaid, he was ſenſible how very critical his ſituation was at that

time

time; that he riſked his life and fortune in taking upon himſelf to commence hoſtilities againſt a nation, with whom we were at peace; but that he knew the fate of Bengal and of the Company depended upon it, and therefore he ran that risk; that he called upon the Nabob to fulfil his agreement, and to order the Dutch to leave the river, and if they did not comply with his orders, he reſolved under his ſanction to attack them: The ſeven ſhips came within a few miles of Calcutta, and then landed near 700 Europeans and 800 Mallays; that he ordered that gallant officer Colonel Ford, who was returned from the expedition of the Decan, to intercept them in their march to Chinſura (the Dutch factory) which he did ſo effectually that of their 700 Europeans not above 14 got to Chinſura, the reſt were either killed, or taken priſoners; this he did with a force of 300 men, 800 Sepoys, and about 150 of the Nabob's cavalry; that he ordered at the ſame time three Engliſh Eaſt-Indiamen, fitted out and manned for the purpoſe, under the command of Captain Wilſon, to attack the ſeven Dutch Eaſt-Indiamen; and after an engagement of two hours, they took ſix of them, and the ſeventh was intercepted by two of our ſhips that laid lower down in the river, and that they took three times the number of men that our ſhips contained.—That after this, two treaties were concluded, the one between the Engliſh Eaſt-India Company, and the Dutch Eaſt-India Company; where they agreed to pay to the Eaſt-India Company all the expences of that war: With the Nabob they made the other treaty, by which they agreed never to introduce forces into his country without his conſent, and that they would never keep at Chinſura, and all their other ſettlements together, more than 125 European ſoldiers. The Witneſs obſerved, that at this time by much the greateſt part of his fortune was in the hands of the Dutch; the Company's treaſury was ſo full in conſequence of his ſucceſſes, that the governor and council declined giving their ſervants any bills in their favour, and he was reduced to the neceſſity of ſending his fortune home by bills upon the Dutch; that theſe bills were made payable by inſtallments, one third part every year, ſo that he was morally certain that two thirds of the ſum ſent, which to the beſt of his remembrance was about £.180,000. would remain in the hands of the Dutch, when they heard the news of their ill ſucceſs in Bengal; but the Dutch Company refuſing to accept of thoſe bills in the manner drawn, and inſiſting upon a deduction of near £.15,000. for prompt payment, or elſe refuſing to pay them at all; his attornies thought proper, conſidering the critical ſituation of the two nations at that time, to accept payment upon thoſe terms; his Lordſhip ſaid, That this deſign of the Dutch being fruſtrated, he reſigned his government to Mr. Holwell, embarked on board a ſhip in February 1760, and arrived in England in July.

His Lordſhip then read to the Committtee the following minutes of the Eaſt-India Company.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wedneſday, February 6, 1754, minutes of the Committee of correſpondence, dated the 5th inſtant, being read, it was unanimouſly

Reſolved, That a ſword ſet with diamonds, to the value of £.500. be preſented by the Court to Captain Robert Clive, as a token of their eſteem for him, and ſenſe of his ſingular ſervices to the Company upon the coaſt of Coromandel.

At a General Court, held on Wedneſday, December 21, 1757, on a motion, and the queſtion being put, it was

Reſolved, That the thanks of this General Court be given to Lieutenant Colonel Robert Clive, for his eminent and ſignal ſervices to this Company.

At a General Court, held on Wedneſday, September 24, 1760, the Chairman from the Court of Directors informed this Court, That ſuch important ſervices had been rendered to the Company in the Eaſt-Indies by Vice Admiral Pocock, and the Colonels Clive and Lawrence, as appears from the accounts formerly laid before this Court, and lately received, to demand ſome further marks of the Court's ſenſe thereof, than had been already expreſſed; and moving the Court thereupon, it was, on the queſtion,

Reſolved, unanimouſly, That the thanks of this court be given to Vice Admiral Pocock, Colonel Robert Clive, and Colonel Stringer Lawrence, for their moſt eminent and ſignal ſervices to this Company.

And another motion being made;

Ordered, That the chairman and deputy chairman wait upon thoſe gentlemen, and acquaint them with this mark of this Court's great regard for their ſervices.

And another being made, it was, on the queſtion,

Reſolved, unanimouſly, That the chairman and deputy, when they wait upon Vice Admiral Pococke, Colonel Clive, and Colonel Lawrence, will deſire thoſe gentlemen to give their conſent that their portraits or ſtatues be taken, in order to be placed in ſome conſpicuous parts of this houſe, that their eminent and ſignal ſervices to this Company may be ever had in remembrance.

His Lordſhip likewiſe read the following letter.

To Robert Clive, Eſquire,

S I R,

We have received your ſeveral letters of the 23d, 24th, 25th, and 26th inſtant, and with great pleaſure obſerve and congratulate you on the rapid ſucceſs therein mentioned.—The revolution effected by your gallant conduct, and the bravery of the officers and ſoldiers under you, is of extraordinary importance, not only to the Company but to the Britiſh nation in general; that we think it incumbent to return you and your officers our ſincere thanks on behalf of his Britannic

Britannic Majeſty, and the Eaſt India Company, for your behaviour on this critical and important occaſion.

Although in your laſt letter Jaffier Ally Khan is ſtiled Nabob, yet we have not ventured on that authority to make any public rejoicings for him, as Subah of theſe provinces; we ſhould be glad therefore to be informed in your next letter, if he has been proclaimed in form, and is in poſſeſſion of the government. This will very much add to our ſatisfaction, and give us a proper opening to adddreſs him as the Subah, proclaim him ſuch in our town, and ſalute his acceſſion.—We have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient,

and moſt humble ſervants,

Cha^{s}. Watſon,
G. Pocock,
Roger Drake, junior,
C. Manningham,
Rich^{d}. Becher.

Fort William,
29 June, 1757.

His Lordſhip being aſked, whether from a review of all the tranſactions of the period when the Dutch armament came to Bengal in 1759, he believes they were invited by Meer Jaffier, or not?

He ſaid, He had no proof for what he was going to offer to the Committee, but that he believed, when from political motives, he found himſelf obliged to lay the Nabob under reſtraints, which were by no means agreeable to him, that he did by ſome means or other, give encouragement to the Dutch, to ſend for thoſe forces; but he believed at the ſame time, that after the ſervices which he had rendered him, by raiſing the ſiege of Patna, and when his life was ſaved from the mutiny of his own army, that he repented of what he had done; for he was down with him at Calcutta, to the beſt of his remembrance, at the time the Dutch armament arrived, and ſeemed very ready to fall into every meaſure which he recommended; that however, from his timid conduct towards the Dutch, even at that time, he was confirmed in his ſuſpicions of his having given the Dutch ſome ſuch invitation.

Some days after this evidence was given, Lord Clive acquainted the Committee, that having recollected an omiſſion in his evidence; he deſired the following words to be inſerted after his account of the tranſactions with the Dutch

"After theſe two treaties were concluded, one between the Engliſh Eaſt India Company, "and the Dutch Eaſt India Company, wherein the Dutch acknowledged themſelves "to have been the aggreſſors, and agreed to pay to the Engliſh Company all the ex- "pences of the war; we returned to them all their ſhips, together with all the trea- "ſure and effects on board, amounting by computation to about half a million ſter- "ling."

Being further queſtioned, whether from any ſubſequent negociations of the Dutch Eaſt India Company, his Lordſhip was confirmed in the opinion of Meer Jaffier's having encouraged them to come to Bengal?

He ſaid, He did believe the Nabob had invited the Dutch from this circumſtance; that upon his return to his capital, he either paid them a viſit, or received a viſit from them, and treated them with ſuch civility as ſerved to confirm his ſuſpicion; that there is reaſon to believe that he connived at their raiſing troops in the country; and when he was taxed with it, he pleaded ignorance.

Being aſked, whether the Nabob's cavalry had any ſhare in the action with the Dutch?

He ſaid, They had in the purſuit, and killed a great many men.

Whether the European troops in the Dutch ſervice are Dutchmen?

They are not; generally ſpeaking they are Germans; their officers were both French and Dutch; their commanding officer was a Frenchman.

Being aſked, whether when he went to raiſe the ſiege, he had any intercourſe with the Naboh?

He ſaid, Certainly; his ſon joined him with 8,000 men; and he thinks it was about February or March 1759.

Your Committee having cloſed the evidence upon the hiſtorical part of the firſt period of their enquiry; in the opening of the examination into the ſecond period, read the papers, which are annexed in the appendix, N^{o} 9.

Your Committee then called upon Colonel Caillaud, to give an account of what he knew of the tranſactions preceding the revolution in 1760, and what induced him to conſent to that revolution. And he informed the Committee, That he was called to Bengal in November 1759, to take the command of the troops in the room of Lord Clive, who intended to return to Europe early the next ſeaſon; that he arrived two days after the affair of the Dutch, and upon his enquiring the ſtate of affairs of that country at that time, was informed, that the Prince (called the Shauzadda) was again preparing to enter the province of Bahar, with a large army, and joined by ſeveral Zemindars of that province, who had not taken part with him the year before.—That the Nabob of Purnea had taken the field on the eaſtern bank of the Ganges about half way between Patna and Muxadavad, and his motives for ſo doing were thought to be an inclination of joining the Prince, if a favourable opportunity offered.—Lord Clive judged it therefore expedient that he ſhould march with a detachment to Muxadavad, there to wait his arrival, and his orders. —That he ſet out from Calcutta in December, with the detachment of 300 Europeans, 50 artillery, 6 pieces of cannon, and a battalion of Sepoys, conſiſting of about 1000 men, and arrived

at Muxadavad about the 26th of December.—And that on the 6th of January, Lord Clive and Colonel Ford joined him.—That Lord Clive then introduced him to the Nabob, recommended him to his friendſhip, and deſired he would repoſe all the confidence poſſible in the witneſs, who was well inclined and attached to his intereſt.—That on the 14th of January, Lord Clive and Colonel Ford ſet out upon their return; and on the 18th he began his march to Patna, joined by the Nabob's ſon, at the head of a large number of country forces.—There was a great many difficulties in ſetting out the expedition; the low ſtate of the Nabob's treaſury obliged him to borrow money, as he could get it from the bankers, by mortgaging countries for it. That about the 30th of January he reached a place, oppoſite to which the Nabob of Purnea was encamped.—He had not declared his intentions openly; but ſaid, he was ready and willing to obey the Nabob's orders in every thing, to pay all the revenues that were due, and to prove himſelf a faithful ſubject and ſervant.—It was neceſſary to get more than theſe general aſſurances from him; he was at the head of a large body of troops; and as the affairs of Patna were then ſituated, it was dangerous to leave ſuch a force in his rear, without knowing whether he could truſt them.—That he endeavoured to ſettle matters between him and the Nabob as well as he could; he would accept of no mediation but his; he would not ſee the young Nabob, but took his ſecurity, that if he faithfully diſcharged all the demands the old Nabob had on him for revenues due, that he would endeavour to get the Nabob's conſent that he ſhould remain in his command.—That this kept him ſeven days; and at this time the Prince was drawing near Patna; the Subah of that province (by name Ramnarrain) had a conſiderable army under his command, beſides a battalion of our Sepoys, that was left in garriſon at Patna by Lord Clive, who joined him upon that occaſion, and he marched out of the city with theſe forces.—That the witneſs repeatedly wrote to him, and preſſed him not to come to an action, but to wait his arrival, and had no doubt then of ſucceſs againſt the Prince.—That however he choſe to follow his own advice; he engaged the Prince; two of his principal Jamautdars deſerted him during the action; he was totally defeated and ſeverely wounded.—400 of our Sepoys marched to his aſſiſtance, when he was ſurrounded by the enemy, ſaved him, and were cut to pieces themſelves, with three European gentlemen, two officers, and one gentleman a volunteer.—That the remainder of the battalion ſecured his retreat into Patna, which the Shauzadda immediately inveſted.—That he received the news of his defeat the 11th of February, and marched with all the expedition in his power, ſuch as obliged him on the 15th to raiſe the ſiege of Patna; and on the 22d the two armies met and engaged; the detail of the action is very unintereſting. That the young Nabob followed quite a contrary diſpoſition to the one he wanted him to make, but that he ſaved him in imminent danger, and the enemy was totally routed.—That the inſtant the engagement was over, the young Nabob retired to his tent, on account of the wounds he had received.—That the Witneſs requeſted and conjured him to give him ever ſo ſmall a body of cavalry, and with his Europeans and Sepoys, fatigued as they were, he would do his beſt to purſue the enemy, and clear the country of them; that he was deaf to all his entreaties—and his means of purſuit, with the handful of troops he was at the head of, fatigued beyond meaſure with the forced marches he had made to raiſe the ſiege, put it quite out of his power; beſides out of the ſix pieces of cannon which he had in the field, four broke down during the engagement, and ſome time was neceſſary to put thoſe carriages in repair.—That at length he perſuaded the Nabob to leave the city of Patna on the 29th of February, and on the 2d of March he received advice that the Shauzadda (the Prince) was in full march for the province of Bengal.—That he had the advantage of a day's march of our army, with an army compoſed almoſt entirely of cavalry, unincumbered with baggage.—That on the 7th he got within 10 miles of him; he marched off in the night, and took his way acroſs the mountains, to enter the province of Bengal in another part; a road through which no army before had ever marched; but through which however the witneſs made a ſhift to follow him, and on the 4th of April joined the old Nabob, who was in the field.—That on the 6th, with their united armies, they got ſo near the Prince, that he propoſed to the Nabob, that he would give him a body of cavalry, and ſome ſpare horſes to aſſiſt him in carrying the Europeans, who were exhauſted and ſpent with fatigue, and he would attack the Prince in his camp that night: This he would not comply with, and the next day he came up however with the rear of their army, a river only dividing them; that he again ſent repeated meſſages to the Nabob, to beg he would only march a body of cavalry, to keep the enemy in play, until he could come up with his infantry; but this he would never conſent to, and the enemy marched off unmoleſted; and in two days after took the ſame road into the province of Bahar: That afraid for the ſafety of Patna, which he knew was deſtitute of troops, he detached Captain Knox, with 200 Europeans, a battalion of Sepoys, and two pieces of cannon, to march with all the expedition he poſſibly could for the relief of Patna, if the Prince ſhould beſiege it: He came in time to ſave the city, on which the Prince had made two general aſſaults, and was preparing for a third, when Captain Knox arrived with ſome part of his detachment, and obliged him to raiſe the ſiege a ſecond time.—That he remained in camp with the old Nabob, and his ſon, until the 16th of May, when again he marched with his ſon againſt the Nabob of Purnea, whom the old Nabob had endeavoured to bring back to his duty, but which the other refuſed, and would comply with none of his terms, broke his promiſe with the witneſs, and was ſetting out with an intention of joining the Prince.—On the 22d he again reached Patna, and croſſed the river there; but before that happened, Captain Knox, whom he had ordered to march from Patna acroſs the river, and endeavour to ſtop the progreſs of the Nabob of Purnea, ſo that we might get up with him, had taken a ſtrong and judicious poſt, and was attacked by the Nabob's whole army, and maintained his

poſt

poſt with great bravery.—That they joined in purſuit of the enemy, who was retreating as faſt as they could. On the 27th he came up with them; the young Nabob with his army in the rear two miles; the cannonading began between the two armies; he ſoon ſeized their cannon, diſlodged them from all their poſts, and would have obtained a complete victory, if foot could have overtaken cavalry, of which his army was chiefly compoſed; that he had none of his own, and the Nabob would not ſend him one horſeman: That they continued purſuing the Nabob of Purnea until the 3d of July; they were to have continued their march next day, when between one and two o'clock in the morning Mr. Luſhington came into his tent with a harcarra (or meſſenger) and told him the young Nabob was dead; that it would be difficult to expreſs his ſurpriſe, which was followed by his enquiries, to know how the accident had happened, which he was told was by a flaſh of lightning, as he lay on his bed: In a few minutes after, his Duan (or Prime Miniſter) came to the witneſs in the greateſt diſtreſs, aſſuring him that if ſomething was not immediately done, the conſequence would be, the plunder of the camp, and the Nabob's troops marching off wherever they thought proper: There was no way to prevent this accident, and the confuſion which muſt follow, but to endeavour to keep his death a ſecret from his army, that we might gain time to bring over ſome of the Jamautdars of the greateſt conſequence, and attach them to our intereſt: That he ſent for one or two of thoſe he thought he could moſt confide in, told them the ſtory, and requeſted as a mark of the regard they had for their old maſter, to continue faithful in the ſervice of the old Nabob, and to bring over, by degrees, as many of the other Jamautdars as they could, to this way of thinking; that he, on his part, would uſe all his endeavours with the old Nabob, that all the arrears of pay, and all the juſt demands they might have, ſhould be ſettled to their ſatisfaction: That we then determined, that the army ſhould march back towards Patna, and give out that the young Nabob was ill; this was performed in ſeven days, and during this whole time, except the people who were entruſted with the ſecret, the army had no knowledge of the young Nabob's death.—The witneſs ſaid, this was the narrative of his campaign; that ſoon after his arrival at Patna, about the 28th or 29th of July, or the beginning of Auguſt, he received advice of Mr. Vanſittart's arrival at Calcutta, as Governor.

Colonel Caillaud then read to the Committee the following letter.

To the honourable J. Z. Holwell, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor of Fort William.

Camp at Balkiſſen's Gardens, 29th May, 1760.

SIR,

I am honoured this day with your favour of the 24th inſtant. My laſt letters of the 24th, and thoſe of yeſterday of the 28th, contain all I can urge in favour of our return to Patna with the young Nabob.—You ſeem alſo convinced of the neceſſity of it ſince the receipt of Mr. Amyatt's letters: I ſhall be glad to find it further confirmed by the ſentiments of the Select Committee.

I am not maſter enough of the ſubject, to know how the Company's inveſtment of ſalt-petre will be ſo much hurt this year, and that you fear, ſuccours will arrive too late to prevent ſuch miſchief; but this I am very confident of, that if we do not find ſuccours, the whole province may be loſt, and many years inveſtments to come.

I will endeavour now, Sir, to reply as fully as I can to the ſubject on which you deſire ſo earneſtly to know my ſentiments, and hope what I have to ſay will ſo fully ſatisfy you, that I need not at leaſt leave the army until the campaign is quite concluded, as I think it cannot be done without prejudice to our affairs.

Bad as the man may be, whoſe cauſe we now ſupport, I cannot be of opinion, that we can get rid of him for a better, without running the riſk of much greater inconveniences attending ſuch a change, than thoſe we now labour under.—I preſume, the eſtabliſhing tranquility in theſe provinces, would reſtore to us all the advantages of trade we could wiſh for the profit and honor of our employers; and I think we bid fairer to bring that tranquility about by our preſent influence over the Subah, and by ſupporting him, than by any change which can be made.—No new revolution can take place, without a certainty of troubles, and a revolution will certainly be the conſequence whenever we withdraw our protection from the Subah.—We cannot in prudence neither, I believe, leave this revolution to chance; we muſt in ſome degree be inſtrumental to bringing it about; in ſuch a caſe, it is very poſſible we may raiſe a man to the dignity juſt as unfit to govern, as little to be depended upon, and in ſhort as great a rogue, as our Nabob; but perhaps not ſo great a coward, nor ſo great a fool, and of conſequence, much more difficult to manage.—As to the injuſtice of ſupporting this man on account of his cruelties, oppreſſions, and his being deteſted in his government; I ſee ſo little chance in this bleſſed country of finding a man endued with the oppoſite virtues, that I think we may put up with theſe vices with which we have no concern, if in other matters we find him fitteſt for our purpoſe.

As to his breach of his treaty, by introducing the Dutch laſt year, that was never ſo clearly proved, I believe, but as to admit of ſome doubt.—Colonel Clive, before he left the country, ſeemed ſatisfied, that what was ſuſpicious in his conduct in that affair, proceeded not from actual guilt, but from the timidity of his nature. But if we ſtill ſuſpect him from further circumſtances, we always have it in our power to put it to the teſt at once, by making him act as he ought, whether he will or no.

With

With regard to drawing our ſwords againſt the lawful Prince of the country, no man can more pity his misfortune than I have done, nor would any one be more willing and happy to be inſtrumental in aſſiſting him to recover his juſt right.—But ſuch a plan is not the thought of a day, nor the execution of it the work of a few months; there is a powerful party ſtill remains; the Vizier with the Mharratas and Jutes, who, notwithſtanding the conſtant ſucceſs of Abdallah againſt them, ſtill make head againſt him, and ſuch are their reſources and their numbers, that I believe they will at laſt oblige the Patans to leave the country; for though they cannot beat them fairly out of the field, they bid fair to ſtarve them out of the country.

You have no doubt received advice from Mr. Haſtings, that Abdallah hath ſent orders to the ſeveral powers, to acknowledge the Prince King of Indoſtan, by the name of Shah Allum; rupees are ſtruck by his order at Banaras and Lacknow, in that name; orders are alſo given to Sujah Dowlatt, to accept the poſt of Vizier; and our Nabob hath got, it is ſaid, inſtructions to acknowledge him, and pay him the obeiſance due to the King of Kings, as he is ſtiled.

If we were perfectly ſure Abdallah would remain, as he ſays, until he ſaw the Prince well fixed on the throne, and the peace and tranquility of the country reſtored; we might, I think, all joined together, be a match for the Mharratas, but we muſt be well aſſured, that Abdallah will heartily enter, and when entered, will firmly ſupport the cauſe; for ſhould this appointment of his be no more (as it is poſſible) than a finiſhing ſtroke to end his expedition with the eclat of having given us a Mogul, and when a certain number of the country powers had entered into the alliance, he ſhould think of a return to his own country, and leave us to fight it out with the other contending party, I fear the Vizier and the Mharratas would be too ſtrong for thoſe who remained of the alliance. ſuppoſing them to be the Ruellahs, and Sujah Dowlatt, and the Nabob of Bengal.—However, ſuppoſing all this ſhould take place, why may it not be done with our Nabob in our hand, ſtill his friends and his protectors?

I am this inſtant favoured with yours of the 25th, and I find by your poſtſcript, that your opinion and mine with regard to the Prince do not differ much. I have no objection to follow the plan you propoſe.—Let Mr. Haſtings ſound the old Nabob, and I will go to work with the young one, who joins me this day.

We may continue our march on to Patna, the rains will give us time to negotiate, to ſee we go on ſure grounds, and make ſuch a plan of the alliance as will do us honor, and be an advantage to our country, and our employers.—But let us not abandon the Nabob; beſides the reaſons I have urged above. One more ſtill remains, which I believe will have ſome weight, and make us cautious how we attempt, without very ſtrong and urgent reaſons, any change in the preſent ſyſtem.

You are well acquainted ſir, with the cauſe which firſt gave riſe to the preſent ſhare of influence, which we enjoy in this part of the Mogul's empire: A juſt reſentment for injuries received, was the firſt motive which induced us to make a trial of our ſtrength; the eaſe with which we ſucceeded enlarged our views, and made us chearfully embrace all opportunities of increaſing that intereſt and influence, both on account of the advantages which accrued from it to the honourable Company, as likewiſe the hopes that it might in time prove a ſource of benefit and riches to our country; ſuch were, I believe, the motives of Colonel Clive's actions during his adminiſtration; ſuch, I believe, were the views of the honourable Company, when they ſolicited and obtained Colonel Coote's regiment from the government; and ſuch, I am certain, is the plan which the Colonel propoſes on his return to purſue and to ſupport, in hopes to convince the miniſtry, and the Company, as he is convinced himſelf, that if they pleaſe to ſupport his project, it will prove of the greateſt advantage to the public.

If I have ſtated our ſituation right, it follows, I believe, of courſe, that we are bound with vigour to work on the ſame plan, to act on the ſame principles, and to keep up the ſyſtem as perfect and entire as it was left in our hands; that whatever reſolutions the nation or the Company may come to, on Colonel Clive's repreſentations, they may not be diſappointed by finding here (at leaſt through our faults) any very material change in our ſituation, power, or credit.

One word more: All we can wiſh to do is, not to ſuffer the Nabob to impoſe on us, and to check every beginning of an independence he may endeavour to aſſume: Let us conſult and improve, on every occaſion that offers, the honour and advantage of our employers, and the increaſe of their trade and credit; and not let them ſuffer any additional expence, on account of purſuing any plan, or ſupporting any ſyſtem whatever: By acting thus, I think we cannot err; we run at leaſt no riſk, and I believe the Company's affairs may be conducted by us under this Subah, as much to their advantage and credit, as any other, whom a revolution may place in the government.

Incloſed, I have the honour to ſend Mr. Amyatt's laſt letter, received this morning: We have had, as you will ſee, another bruſh with the Prince's troops, and with great ſucceſs; however if the other plan goes on, we muſt put an end to this fighting ſyſtem, and talk coolly on affairs: I ſhall expect the favour of your opinion with great impatience, and have the honour to aſſure you, that I am, with perfect eſteem and reſpect,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient,

and moſt humble ſervant,

John Caillaud.

The Witneſs being aſked, What were his reaſons for approving a revolution in September 1760, which he ſeemed to diſapprove ſo ſtrongly by the letter he had read, dated in May? he ſaid, he would, to the beſt of his recollection, declare thoſe motives, by ſtating ſome particulars of his ſituation at that time in the country: The aſcendancy which Lord Clive had over the Nabob, which flowed from the Nabob from a ſenſe of the favours he had received from Lord Clive, was, very ſoon after he came to the command, at an end: That the Witneſs's conſtant unwearied attention, to keep up that confidence ſo neceſſary between them and the Nabob, was prevented by ſome very untoward circumſtances: Mr. Holwell ſucceeded Lord Clive in the chair, only by virtue of his rank, in order of ſucceſſion; and the certainty of another governor being ſoon appointed, was known to the whole country; and of courſe, that degree of reſpect which the Nabob would have had to a governor in other circumſtances, was not paid to Mr. Holwell; Mr. Holwell ſoon ſaw this, and reſented it. The Nabob's exceeding weak and irreſolute character, gave plenty of occaſions for Mr. Holwell to find fault, and blame his meaſures: That he felt them too, and obſerved them, but he thought that he did his duty beſt as a faithful ſervant to the Company, by acting the part of a mediator between them, and by ſoftening, rather than irritating, the ill diſpoſition that ſubſiſted between them. That on this plan he acted throughout the whole courſe of Mr. Holwell's adminiſtration; putting off by delays, and ſometimes with reaſons, every approach to a change of ſyſtem in that government, which though in his own heart he adopted, and knew the neceſſity of, yet he was deſirous to keep it off as long as he could, till the neceſſity of it might preſs ſo hard as to make it unavoidable: That he thought of nothing but temporary ſyſtems formed to the day and to the minute; he would not truſt his own abilities and judgment, ſo far as to decide upon what was right or wrong; he knew ſomething was to be done, but how to do it, he really did not know: That when that letter he read was wrote, the Nabob's ſon was then alive; his extraordinary death made a great change in the ſituation of affairs in that country: That Mr. Vanſittart's arrival, and the confidence he had in his abilities and judgment, made him without reluctance adopt his plan; he knew his motives; they were honeſt and diſintereſted, as to himſelf, honourable and advantageous to his employers, and ſuch as the neceſſity of the times, the particular ſituation at Bengal, the general ſtate of the Company's affairs throughout India, have ever in his opinion vindicated the meaſures purſued.

Being aſked, Whether 20 lack, or any other ſum was ſtipulated, for bringing about that revolution?

He ſaid, The night that Coſſim Ally Khan ſigned the articles, for accepting the management of the affairs of Bengal, under Jaffier Ally Khan (in the preſence, as he believed, of Mr. Vanſittart, Mr. Sumner, Mr. Holwell, and himſelf) Coſſim Ally Khan, after expreſſing the many obligations he had for our intended good offices in his favour, tendered a paper to Mr. Vanſittart; which, as Mr. Vanſittart interpreted to us, contained a note for 20 lack of rupees, payable to the gentlemen then preſent; that he don't recollect a gentleman preſent there, that did not concur with him, in deſiring Mr. Vanſittart to return that paper to Coſſim Ally Khan; telling him, That he miſtook our motives for his advancement. He preſſed on Mr. Vanſittart again the acceptance of the paper; telling him, That if we continued to refuſe that favour, he ſhould fear that the gentlemen preſent were not well pleaſed with the appointment: Mr. Vanſittart, who knew his own motives, as well as thoſe of the witneſs, and alſo of the reſt of the gentlemen in the Committee, told Coſſim Ally Khan, returning him the paper again, "When "you have paid off all the arrears due to the Company, to your own troops, that the peace of "this country is ſettled, and that your own treaſury is full; if then you think proper to make "us any acknowledgement for the ſervices now done you, we ſhall not then be unwilling to "accept ſuch marks as you will be pleaſed to give us of your friendſhip." The Witneſs ſaid, That the affair ended there; and he declared ſolemnly upon his honour, there was no ſtipulations made, no partition treaty, or any thing of the kind mentioned, then or after, to his knowledge, of that tranſaction.

The Witneſs added, That he was now ready and willing to declare, what he received upon the occaſion, when he received it, and how he received it; he ſaid, He little expected after 13 years ſervice in that country, and 9 of them in the field, that the little fortune he made, ſhould become the object of ſo public an enquiry, but he was happy to meet this enquiry more than half way, and the more ſo in this particular point; as perhaps it may give him an opportunity of doing juſtice to the memory of the man from whom he received it (Mr. Vanſittart) who did it in his uſual generous and handſome way: ſo that he knows not but to this minute, the ſum he received may be charged to his account. After Coſſim Ally Khan was placed in the government, he went up to the army at Patna, came down again, embarked for the coaſt in January 1761, remained there a year and an half, and came back to Calcutta, called there upon extraordinary buſineſs. In October 1762, Mr. Vanſittart then going up to Munger, told him, "If I am happy "enough to ſettle with the Nabob the unfortunate differences that have ſubſiſted between him "and my Council, and that I can with propriety remind him of the ſervices you jointly did him; "I ſhall certainly endeavour to ſerve you." Mr. Vanſittart went up to Munger, and he embarked on board a ſhip for Europe. In the year 1763, he received an account current from Mr. Vanſittart, in which he found credit for 2 lack of rupees, unſolicited as he had mentioned before, and much beyond his expectations, and this upon his honour was the whole of what he received directly or indirectly upon that occaſion; ſo little was money his object or thought, that he never enquired or knew what others might have got upon the ſame occaſion; and that if money

had been his object, he ſhould have been more curious in his enquiries: It is not ſtated in the account from Mr. Vanſittart, from whom the 2 lack came, but he ſuppoſed it to come from Coſſim.

Being aſked, Who took poſſeſſion of the houſe and effects of Meer Jaffier?

He ſaid, Coſſim Ally Khan, after Jaffier had taken out every thing that he wanted.

Being aſked, When the reſolution was taken of making Coſſim Ally Khan Nabob, in the room of Meer Jaffier?

He ſaid, In the accounts read of the tranſaction, it appears, that Meer Jaffier, rather than conſent to the terms propoſed, ſent for Meer Coſſim, and gave up the government to him immediately.

Being aſked, Whether Mr. Holwell made any report to the Select Committee, that Coſſim Ally Khan propoſed to take off the Nabob?

He ſaid, He never heard of ſuch propoſal, Mr. Holwell never reported to them, that ſuch a propoſal had been made to him.

The Bengal proceedings relating to Colonel Caillaud; and the opinion of the Court of Directors upon the ſame ſubject, were read, and are annexed in the Appendix, N° 10.

A member of the houſe being preſent, deſired to acquaint the Committee, That he was chairman of the Eaſt India Company at that time, and was the principal cauſe of Colonel Caillaud's coming home, in order to do juſtice to a character he entertained a high opinion of; that the Court of Directors entered into a minute enquiry, when he was unanimouſly acquitted, and was returned to India, with higher honours.

William Brightwell Sumner, Eſquire, being called upon by the Committee, to ſtate his reaſons for aſſenting as a ſelect Committee man, to the meaſure of depoſing Meer Jaffier, and placing Coſſim Ally Khan on the Muſnud?—ſaid, That, without inſiſting on the public breach of treaty on the part of Meer Jaffier, in the inſtance of the Dutch invaſion, and the many other doubtful parts of his conduct, the irregularities of his private life, or the cruelties with which he was charged, he would reſt the reaſons for his conduct on the neceſſity of the reformation, from the extreme difficulties and imminent dangers the affairs of the Company, as well as thoſe of the ſtate, were reduced to by the jealouſies, indolence, and inactivity, of the Nabob Meer Jaffier, and the mal-adminiſtration and corruption of his miniſters, in the collection and diſſipation of the revenues, and adding to theſe, the inteſtine troubles through the whole country; the witneſs was of opinion, and ſtill continued firm in the ſame, that it would have been impoſſible to have ſupported the ſyſtem of government then eſtabliſhed two months longer, and that embarked as we were with Meer Jaffier, we muſt inevitably have ſhared in his ruin.

For the difficulties and diſtreſſes of the preſidency, and the opinions formed thereon, while theſe were ſtrong in view and immediate concluſions were neceſſary, the witneſs referred to the public records, which, he ſaid, fully evinced the neceſſity of the meaſures purſued, but he wiſhed to have it underſtood, that when the Committee firſt entered into negotiation with Meer Coſſim, their only idea was reformation in the miniſtry, not a revolution in the government; and that it was the unexpected obſtinacy of Meer Jaffier alone, not an original deſign in the Committee, that placed Meer Coſſim on the Muſnud; that he believed, it was a circumſtance as little thought of by Mr. Vanſittart, as by himſelf, when he left Calcutta, on his viſit to the Nabob, for the purpoſe of theſe reformations; but he readily admitted the neceſſity of the ſubſequent change made by Mr. Vanſittart, as pointed out by him in his narrative; every part of which, from his intimate knowledge of the man, he gave the fulleſt credit to.—The witneſs repeated, That he was, and ſtill remained of opinion, that the deſtruction of Meer Jaffier's government made the intended reformation neceſſary, and that having gone ſuch lengths, there was no room for receding; and that on the whole, he flattered himſelf, when all matters were duly weighed, his conduct would ſtand juſtified in the opinion of every candid and impartial man, whether he was conſidered as a ſubject of this kingdom, or, as an immediate ſervant of the Company.

The witneſs being deſired to inform the Committee, whether the invitation which Meer Jaffier was ſuppoſed to give to the Dutch, was ever more than ſuſpicion?—he ſaid, It was ſo far proved by a letter or letters, found in his cabinet after he left Muxadavad, wrote by the Dutch governor to him, on the ſubject of that invaſion: That he could not recollect the purport of them preciſely, but they were full conviction to him; they were not entered upon the public proceedings; and he does not recollect, that the Committee made any remonſtrance or memorial to Meer Jaffier, upon the ſubject of their ſuſpicions with reſpect to the Dutch, nor to his knowledge did Meer Jaffier ever acknowledge ſuch tranſaction.

The witneſs read from a printed book, the tranſlations of the following letters from Mr. Biſdom, Director of Chinſura, to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan, and which he recollected to be thoſe mentioned above.

L E T T E R I.

Our ſettlement was eſtabliſhed here long before the Engliſh and other nations entered this kingdom, of which we were eye witneſſes: Our power was then greater as well as our trade, but now we perceive, that both our power, intereſt, and wealth, are loſt, whilſt that of other nations daily increaſe: In this caſe, what recourſe have we left? Our diſhonour and ſhame is almoſt inevitable.

For

For this reaſon, and for the ſecurity of our poſſeſſions, as well as for the ſervice of your excellency, I have ſent for troops into this country: You are our maſter and ſovereign; and therefore I hope for your protection, and wait your orders to bring our troops to this place.

God grant that your riches may daily increaſe.

LETTER II.

As our nation has always been encouraged by the favour of your excellency, and more particularly from that time, when having a favourable regard to our Company's buſineſs, you repeatedly aſſured our chief of Coſſimbuzar, of your attachment; conſidering theſe circumſtances, I was extremely ſurpriſed, that your excellency, during your reſidence at Calcutta, entered into an agreement, that you would ſtrengthen the fort of Muha Tanna, in order to prevent the Dutch troops from coming this way; and alſo give a note to the Engliſh, directing them to oppoſe the coming up of our army —All theſe things conſidered, it ſeems plain to us, that your excellency did not enter into the agreement, or gave this order from any ill opinion of us; but it is all to be imputed to the overbearing ſpirit of the Engliſh: But if any one enters into an agreement through force or diſtreſs, and afterwards does not abide by it, he will ſtand juſtified by the laws of God and man; particularly the Governor of a kingdom, who wiſhes for nothing elſe but the good of his country, and the proſperity of his people.

I am therefore in hopes, through your juſtice and favour, that you will recede from your agreement and order, and that we ſhall obtain an order from your excellency, for the bringing up of our army; and alſo, that a poſitive order may be given to the Engliſh, on no account to moleſt them, for we ſent for the ſaid army to this country, in conſequence of your directions.

The King's revenues are greatly detrimented, and the country almoſt ruined, and of this you can only look upon the Engliſh as the ſole cauſe. Our nation formerly brought conſiderable ſums of money into this kingdom, and did not carry out any, and now the Engliſh are ſo powerful, that no trade can be carried on by us, for which reaſon no money now arrives, and the Engliſh yearly remit conſiderable ſums: By this means the revenues of the country are greatly decreaſed; and therefore how will you be able, without great difficulty, to maintain your forces? and when your enemies come upon you, you will not then be capable of oppoſing them:—This time if you will favour the Company, they will ever be at your command; and your preſent anxiety and uneaſineſs may be removed:—Your excellency cannot take a better ſtep, and I hope you will take this into your favourable and ſerious conſideration, and return me a proper anſwer.

LETTER III.

The wrathful letter you wrote to me I have received, and it has given me inexpreſſible uneaſineſs:—The troops were not called here at my own deſire, nor did I imagine they would ever have come to action, and fully intended to have returned them by the ſhips when they ſailed for Europe;—They were brought here for the ſecurity of the ſhips: This I acquainted your excellency of ſeveral times.—During their ſtay in camp they moleſted no man, nor had any diſturbances with the country people; this alſo you are well aſſured of.—It was never my intention they ſhould fight; but the Engliſh hoiſted Moors colours, and immediately came down upon them, and a battle enſued. Your excellency is the magiſtrate of juſtice, and therefore I deſire you will interfere:—I was deſirous that ſome advantage ſhould ariſe to the riots from the ſale of the goods when they were brought up, and intended to have laden on board the ſhips the ſalt petre and other goods that were bought, and with the people that came here, diſpatched them to Europe; but the Engliſh would not permit the boats to paſs:—I am willing to act up to our agreement, and hope your excellency will adhere to it alſo: In this we entirely depend on your favour. The Company have for a long time carried on trade here; and therefore earneſtly deſire you will continue to them your favour and protection, as we are not able of ourſelves to root out our enemies.

The Witneſs further ſaid, There were ſeveral other letters ſhewn him by Mr. Vanſittart, but does not know they were ever acknowledged by Meer Jaffier, and believes they were never ſhewn to him; and he does not know whether theſe letters were ſigned; but they were ſealed on the cover; and he was convinced they were wrote by the Dutch governor.

Being aſked, What he apprehended to be the reaſon that theſe letters were not ſhewn to the Select Committee, and tranſmitted as part of their proceedings? He ſaid, he believed they were ſhewn to every one of the Committee ſeparately; that he could aſſign no certain reaſon for the conduct of Mr. Vanſittart, but ſuppoſes he did not think them of conſequence to be ſhewn to the Committee in their collective capacity.

Being aſked, Whether there were any hoſtilities between the two companies, previous to the Dutch fleet coming into the river? He ſaid, there were no hoſtilities; ſome diſagreements there had always been on commercial tranſactions, which were generally accommodated.

The Witneſs further ſaid, in anſwer to other queſtions, That he certainly thought the Nabob was bound by the ſecond article of the treaty, to prevent any ſhips or troops of the Dutch coming into Bengal; and that certainly the Dutch would have acted as our enemies, had they been permitted to introduce 7 or 800 Europeans: That he apprehends the ſtrength of the Dutch in all their factories before this operation, amounted to about 150 military men: That a correſpondence had paſſed between the Engliſh and Dutch upon that tranſaction: He could not recollect exactly their public profeſſions, but had no doubt of their intentions.

The

The Witneſs further ſaid, That he was a member of the Select Committee from the time of Lord Clive's departure to the period of the revolution; that he did not recollect they had any meetings as a Select Committee upon that ſubject; the whole being carried on in the correſpondence between General Caillaud and Mr. Holwell.

He further ſaid, That he was one of the Select Committee preſent when Coſſim Ally Khan made the offer of 20 lack to the governor and council; and that he confirmed every part of General Caillaud's evidence upon that occaſion, with this difference, that when the paper was returned, Mr. Vanſittart obſerved that we were labouring for the peace and ſafety of the country; that the exigencies of the State were preſſing, and that we would not on any account receive this offer; but that if, when the Company was ſettled, he found himſelf in a ſituation ſo to do with convenience to his affairs, he would then be at full liberty to gratify his friends as he thought proper: And Mr. Vanſittart further added, "I will, for my part, under ſuch circumſtances, "freely accept any token of your regard; and I ſhould ſuppoſe the other gentlemen will do the "ſame:" That Mr. Vanſittart then returned the paper to Coſſim Ally Khan, who ſeemed uneaſy, and ſaid, He apprehended we were not ſo much his friends as he wiſhed:—That Mr. Vanſittart then gave him the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of our ſincerity, and took the opportunity to preſs a donation from him of 5 lack of rupees to the Company, as a help towards the reduction of Pondicherry; this was granted, and was paid the very firſt money—to the beſt of the Witneſs's recollection, a very few weeks after the tranſaction.

The Witneſs being further queſtioned, ſaid, That he knew of no acknowledgement made to the governor and council, as a body, after Coſſim Ally Khan was placed on the Muſnud; but that as to himſelf, as in the courſe of his evidence, he ſhould have occaſion to mention his diſmiſſion from the Company's ſervice, a circumſtance, which if not explained, might leave an impreſſion of culpability on his part, he begged leave to inform the Committee, that the cauſe of his diſmiſſion was, his having ſigned a letter to the Court of Directors, as one of their council among many others, wherein they expoſtulated on what they thought harſh and undeſerved treatment; that this letter gave the Directors ſuch umbrage, that every man in India who had ſigned it, was immediately diſmiſſed without the leaſt regard to the merits or length of their ſervices; that he ſtates this as the ſole cauſe of his diſmiſſion; and in proof thereof, referred to the ſeveral papers annexed in the Appendix, N° 11.

The Witneſs obſerved, that the change of government in favour of Coſſim Ally Khan, took place in October 1760, and ſaid, That ſeveral months after his eſtabliſhment, Coja Petruſe, the Nabob's agent in Calcutta, preſented him, in the name of the Nabob, with 80,000 Sicca rupees (£.10,000): The payments were made from May to July 1761: That he was diſmiſſed the Company's ſervice the 5th of Auguſt following; and from that period, to his leaving Bengal, the 20th of January 1762, he received further, and in like manner, at different times, the ſum of 144,000 Sicca rupees (£.18,000) making together the whole amount received £.28,000 ſterling: That the reaſon of ſeparating the ſums received, was in ſupport and confirmation of the idea that he had always entertained and wiſhed to convey to the Committee, of its having been a free and voluntary gift, and he begged leave again to remark, that by far the largeſt part of the preſent was received after his diſmiſſion: That under theſe circumſtances he ever conſidered the tranſaction honourable, and never made a ſecret of it: That he had thus intruded upon the patience of the Committee, to obviate an opinion, which ſeems too prevalent, that preſents are received indiſcriminately in India, and that ſelf-intereſt is the only motive of actions there: And to ſhew what he thought diſhonourable preſents, he further informed the Committee, That in March 1761, he was employed by the governor and council in the province of Burdwan, to enquire into the ſtate of the revenues, ſo as to enable them to form a ſettlement with the Rajah for the enſuing year; that while he was upon his journey, the Rajah found means to ſend his agents to Calcutta, who repreſented to the governor and council, that of late years the Nabob's receipts, which was the claim the Company had on the province, had ſcarcely exceeded 18 lack of rupees: However, after much treating, they offered to ſettle the next year, at between 24 and 25 lack: That the governor and council had not agreed in form to this propoſal, but he was informed by a letter on the 3d of April, they had determined ſo to do; and he was in conſequence immediately recalled: That he informed Mr. Vanſittart with the opinion he had formed upon the intelligence he had got into the ſtate of the province; and that he meant to proteſt againſt thoſe terms of agreement: That the next morning, before the council met, he convinced Mr. Vanſittart ſo fully of the juſtneſs of his opinion, that he was re-appointed to Burdwan with the ſame commiſſion and powers: That this tranſaction appeared on the conſultation of the 10th of April 1771:—That about the latter end of June, or beginning of July, he had compleated his enquiries, and returned to Calcutta with a voluntary offer from the Rajah, of the payment of 32 lack and a half of rupees, which was agreed to, and the whole received within that year: That this tranſaction eſtabliſhed a footing for a further reſident at Burdwan, and thereby laid the foundation of an annual increaſe of rents, amounting at this time, if he is rightly informed, to 43 lack per annum, net receipt to the Company.

The witneſs ſaid, That on the morning of the 10th of April, when his re-appointment to Burdwan took place, he had an offer made him by the Rajah's agent of 4 lack of rupees for his own uſe and benefit, to be paid down immediately, on condition he would forbear all oppoſition to the engagement which the Council were before ready to enter into; and that Mr. Smith (a member of the Council) with whom he was intimately connected, ſoon after informed him, that he

he had offers of 2 lack of rupees for his influence with him, not to ſtir in the affair; and that their further offers to him (through Mr. Smith) were unlimited: That they both treated this propoſal as it deſerved.

In regard to preſents received by others, the witneſs ſaid, That whatever had come to his knowledge had been by acting as their attorney; but as he is perſuaded that the gentlemen who employed him have no reſerve upon the occaſion, and as he can ſpeak with certainty on the ſubject, he ſhould conceal no part:—That Mr. Holwell, who was of the Council, received 2 lack and 70,000 rupees—Mr. M'Gwire, one lack and 80,000—Mr. Culling Smith, ſecretary to the Committee, one lack and 34,000—Major Yorke, who commanded the detachment immediately attendant on Meer Coſſim, one lack and 34,000—He did not know whether Mr. Vanſittart received any thing: Theſe ſums were paid in 1761.

The witneſs being aſked, what were the circumſtances of the country when this money was received?—he ſaid, It was a matter he ſuppoſed the Nabob a proper judge of.

Being aſked, whether Meer Jaffier, at the time of the revolution, had diſcharged his debt incurred by his treaty with the Company in 1757:—he ſaid, No, A ballance remained due, for which, when the aſſignments in the Burdwan country were given up, the Company received jewels and other effects, which were conſidered as full ſecurity, not as payment; and could not recollect when the payment was made.

Being aſked, whether at the time he received the firſt payment of his preſent, he did not receive an obligation for a larger ſum?—he ſaid, He did; that it was ſome weeks, to the beſt of his recollection, after Coſſim Ally Khan left Calcutta, that Coja Petruſe informed him the Nabob intended to make him a preſent of 2 lack and a half; and deſired to know whether he would accept of them:—That he anſwered, he would very thankfully accept of them as a free and voluntary gift, whenever his circumſtances and ſituation admitted it, without inconvenience to his own affairs: That he then preſented him with the Nabob's obligation for that ſum, ſaying, that the Nabob had ſuffered much uneaſineſs by Mr. Vanſittart's refuſal of the obligation for 20 lack. The witneſs replied, That he conſidered the obligation of no validity; but he received the preſent as an earneſt of the Nabob's friendly intentions towards him.

Being aſked, If, at the time of this converſation with Coja Petruſe, the Nabob was indebted to the Company? he ſaid, It was probable he might be in debt, but he thinks jewels were mortgaged for the payment of every debt. The depoſit of jewels was conſidered as abſolute good ſecurity; but when they were redeemed, or how the account was ſettled, he could not recollect.

The witneſs further ſaid, That large ſums had been ſent by Meer Jaffier to Patna for payment of the troops; and payment had likewiſe been made at Muxadavad; that ſums were ſtill due was moſt probable, for he did not ſuppoſe army accounts ever have been, or will be, ſettled. As to the troubles in the country, he apprehends they were not concluded; and that the battle with the Shawzadda had not then happened.

Being aſked, whether he apprehended the treaſure of the Nabob was abounding at that time? he ſaid, At the time the obligation was given, he apprehended not; but when it was paid, he apprehended the Nabob found no inconvenience.

In anſwer to further queſtions, the witneſs ſaid, That he never diſcloſed to Mr. Vanſittart his converſation with Coja Petruſe, nor had he had curioſity to enquire whether meſſages, ſimilar to that ſent to him, had been ſent to Mr. Holwell, Mr. Calliaud, Mr. M'Gwire, or either of them: And he does not believe that Mr. Vanſittart knew any thing of the 2 lack mentioned in Mr. Holwell's letter, and thought it impoſſible he ſhould.

In the courſe of the above evidence, were read the papers annexed in the appendix. N° 12.

Your Committee having proceeded thus far in their report; and finding it impoſſible, from the prorogation, to digeſt in any manner the reſt of their proceedings, have, in conſideration of the importance of the matter, laid a tranſcript of their minutes before the houſe.

General Carnack.

Whether you was preſent in Bengal at the time of the revolution, which placed Coſſim Ally Khan on the Muſnud?

I left Bengal in 1760, with Lord Clive, on my return to Europe.—At my arrival at St. Helena I had information that the Court of Directors had appointed me Major of their ſettlement at Bengal, and commander of their forces there.

In conſequence of that information, I availed myſelf of the opportunity of one of the Company's ſhips that was at St. Helena, and went back to Bengal.—I arrived in the mouth of the river, I think, in the beginning of October in that year; but being detained there five or ſix days by contrary winds, I ſuppoſe it was about the 12th or 13th before I arrived at Calcutta:—I there received a letter from Mr. Vanſittart, who had heard of the ſhip's being in the river, informing me he was gone to Muxadavad with Colonel Calliaud, and wiſhed me to follow him as ſoon as poſſible:—I accordingly tarried but a very few days at Calcutta, and proceeded up to Mr. Vanſittart.—In my way to one of the palaces, called Moradbog, where Mr. Vanſittart was, I of neceſſity paſſed by the Nabob's palace, while Colonel Calliaud, with the troops, was there, it being the very day of the revolution, in the act of making the revolution; and yet every thing was ſo quiet, that I paſſed the place without having any idea of the matter.—Mr. Vanſittart, upon our meeting, informed me of what had been tranſacted.

To ſtate the circumſtances relating to Ramnarrain.

Ramnarrain was a very able man, but very avaritious, and he had the credit of being very wealthy, which was motive ſufficient for Coſſim Ally Khan to wiſh to have him in his power.—

He was always an object of jealouſy of the Nabob's, and even Meer Jaffier wiſhed to have had hold of his treaſures; however, my Lord Clive had ſecured him from any injuſtice of that nature, and it was deemed a point of policy to ſupport Ramnarrain; and the firſt orders I received after the victory over the Shawzadda, were to maintain the engagements which had been obſerved in Lord Clive's time, with reſpect to protecting Ramnarrain from any violence or injuſtice on the part of the Nabob.—The plea of his being in arrear was the pretext always made uſe of for oppreſſing him, but without foundation; for in the frequent converſations I had with Ramnarrain on the ſubject, he always ſeemed ready to come to a fair and equitable account:—The Governor and Council thought proper afterwards to give me contrary directions reſpecting that unfortunate man: There ſtands upon the Company's records a letter from me to the board, ſhewing the contrariety of their orders, and an abſolute refuſal, while I was at the head of their forces, of doing ſo diſhonourable an act, as delivering up this man to his enemy.

Fort William conſultations, 21 April 1761—Major Carnack's letter relating to Ramnarrain read.

The 2d order the Governor and Council gave me, was to deliver up Ramnarrain, which I abſolutely refuſed.—In the interim Colonel Coote came and took the command of the army:—Colonel Coote's purſuing the ſame meaſures, with reſpect to Ramnarrain, was an approbation of my conduct, which was very pleaſing to me.

At the time you left the army at Patna did you underſtand that you had a right to quit the ſervice when you thought proper?

I certainly had a right, in my apprehenſion, to reſign the ſervice, except to evade puniſhment for any crime I might have been guilty of, or in the face of danger.

Whether you delivered ſuch an opinion to the preſident at Calcutta?

I did, and it ſtands upon record.

Was there then any obligation or covenant between the military ſervants and the Company to ſerve for any limited time?

I believe there have been inſtances of inferior officers entering into ſuch covenants, but my commiſſion was ſent out without any ſuch ſtipulation; and I will obſerve, why in juſtice it ought to be ſo, for it was in the power of the Governor and Council to diſmiſs me at their pleaſure.

Whether the ſame liberty did not extend to all the other military ſervants of the Company not having entered into covenant?

So I have always underſtood ſingly, and with reſtriction, as I have mentioned.

Do you imagine, that if at the time you had reſigned, another perſon exerciſing the ſame right at the ſame time would have rendered an action, innocent in itſelf, criminal by the conduct of another?

No—nor men in more than one—as no immediate detriment could have from thence enſued to the ſervice; but I ſhould think myſelf highly criminal to join in a general combination to reſign.

Do you imagine that ſeveral perſons combining together to do an act, which was lawful for each to do ſeparately, would, by ſuch combination, be guilty of a crime?

I do, and for this reaſon, that general ruin (and more eſpecially in India, where the loſs of officers cannot be ſupplied) would be the conſequence of ſuch a general reſignation.

Do you think that every thing which may be hurtful in its conſequences is therefore criminal to do?

Where the public is materially concerned I think ſo.

Whether your motive for quitting the army was the orders you received for giving up Ramnarrain?

I did not quit the army, but was ordered down, I believe, with a view of removing every obſtacle to the delivery up of Ramnarrain.

Whether you do not think that a breach of the general engagements, under which officers ſerved the Company, would have warranted a general reſignation?

I think it may tend to exculpate; but no private conſideration can warrant an act, when the public ſafety is at ſtake.

Sir Eyre Coote.

To give an account of the particular circumſtances relative to Ramnarrain.

After the campaign was over, on the coaſt of Coromandel, which ended, I believe, in January 1760, I then went down to Bengal:—I may ſay, prior to that, that I had received a letter from the Governor and Council of Madraſs, 4 December 1760, informing me of the revolution in Bengal, and that there was five lack of rupees ſent from the Nabob, Coſſim Ally Khan, for the payment of the troops acting in the ſiege of Pondicherry:—At that time we were, I believe, three or four months in arrears to our black troops, notwithſtanding all the attention the Governor and Council of Madraſs paid to the ſupplying us with money; if that money had come in any other way than by a revolution, it would have made me much happier than it did.—In my anſwer to that letter of the 7th, I gave my opinion of my diſapproval of that revolution, as a meaſure I thought would be productive of the loſs of our reputation.—Upon my arrival in Bengal I found there was two different parties of the Council, the one that had formed the revolution, and the other that diſapproved of it:—I was intimately acquainted with the gentlemen of both thoſe parties, and therefore, as the affair had happened, however unfortunate I thought it might prove, I made it my buſineſs to endeavour to reconcile the two parties, with a reſolution, at that time, not to interfere in any matter of buſineſs or politicks where I thought no honour was to be gained; however, I was over perſuaded by Mr. Vanſittart and the other gentlemen (as a meaſure which they

they told me they imagined would be of great ſervice to the Company) to go up to the army at Patna; accordingly I deſired they would give me inſtructions to proceed by, which are as follows.

Inſtructions to Colonel Coote in the Select Committee proceedings, Fort William, 21 April 1761, read.

By this, I believe, it will plainly appear, that the governor and council had two objects in view, in ſending me there, one was the fixing a plan of operation upon the ſuppoſition that we ſhould be able to conduct the Mogul to Delhi; the other to ſecure and protect Ramnarrain in the province of Patna:—Upon my arrival at Patna I applied, with the cloſeſt attention, to the buſineſs upon which I was ſent there, I informed the Shawzadda of the ſentiments of the Board towards him, and the deſire the Engliſh had to aſſiſt him to the utmoſt of their power, which he ſeemed very ſenſible of, and very deſirous of having; at the ſame time deſiring that he might be proclaimed and acknowledged by us as he had been by different powers in Indoſtan; and ſaid, he thought it very extraordinary, that where he himſelf reſided, there he was not acknowledged: Thoſe matters I communicated to the Board to receive their inſtructions, as will be ſeen in the courſe of the correſpondence in July.—I likewiſe informed Ramnarrain, that I had orders from the governor and council to protect him, provided he would ſettle his accounts with the Nabob; and therefore I deſired him immediately to ſet about it, informing the Nabob of the ſame, as may be ſeen in my correſpondence with the governor and council.—During thoſe tranſactions I received a letter from the Board recommending it to me to proclaim the King.—I found, that had I immediately complied with the requeſt of the Board, it might prove of fatal conſequence to the Nabob, and to the Company, at that time; for he had given away ſeveral of the beſt provinces to different people that belonged to him, particularly Purnea, which will likewiſe be ſeen in the correſpondence; I therefore thought it, to the beſt of my judgment, for the advantage of the Company and the Nabob, as it was the Shawzadda's inclination, to let him go to Shujah Dowla; at the ſame time I had got the Nabob to conſent to that meaſure, and to pay a viſit with me to the Shawzadda; then it was thought adviſeable, both by the Nabob, and ſeveral of the Company's ſervants who were preſent, that the Nabob for himſelf, and I on behalf of the Engliſh, ſhould coin the Siccas, and acknowledge him Mogul on the day that he ſhould paſs the boundary of the province; this he ſeemed ſatisfied with, and it was agreed that Major Carnac, with part of the army ſhould eſcort him; the Major informing me, in proper time, of the day he ſhould join Shujah Dowla, in order that I might keep my promiſe, the Nabob conſenting entirely to all this matter; and at the ſame time agreed, that if we proſecuted the expedition, and ſettled matters with Shujah Dowla, that he would advance the 10 lack towards the payment of our forces. —The King was but a few days gone, when the Nabob ſeemed to alter his ſentiments entirely, with regard to the promiſes he had made, and turned his thoughts intirely towards the ſeizing of Ramnarrain, for which, if I would give him up, he offered me ſeven lack and a half of rupees, and whatever I pleaſed to the gentlemen of my family; this I communicated, by letter, to the governor and council of 17th July, 1761:—The Nabob finding he could not gain his point, with regard to Ramnarrain, then thought it neceſſary to write the governor, Mr. Vanſittart, the moſt ſcandalous invectives, and falſe accuſations, againſt me, and was determined that he would not declare the King the day we had both given our words of honour for doing it.—He had then a large army encamped on the outſide of Patna:—I was then in the city, and from the detachments which I had made, and which were ſent for the collection of revenues with Major Carnac, I had not then under my command above 150 Europeans, 70 of which were in the hoſpitals, and I believe 3 or 400 Sepoys; I was, with this force, to protect the city, Ramnarrain, and to defend my own honour:—The Nabob knowing my weakneſs, thought it a proper opportunity to get poſſeſſion of the city:—He applied to me for leave to come into the fort of the city the day before the Shawzadda was to be proclaimed; to which I agreed, and he ſeemed thoroughly ſatisfied, provided he only brought in the attendants about his perſon; this he conſented to: The night or two before the Mogul was to be proclaimed, he ſent me word, that he would not proclaim him, nor come into the city, unleſs he had the gates delivered up to him, which I would by no means conſent to; at the ſame time I informed him, that I had given my honour for declaring the Mogul on ſuch a day, and I would have it performed in the city, which would not appear proper in the eyes of the country, as he was Subah of the province, and begged we might have a conference upon the ſubject, which he evaded having; and I was informed by my ſpies, that that very night his camp was all in motion, and his artillery brought towards the city.—I ſent the next morning to one of his chief miniſters, to learn the reaſon of ſuch a movement, and the meaning of the Nabob, which he told me was done by Coja Gregory, who was his head general; and he was not afraid to ſay at the Durbar, that it would be productive of miſchief: Finding, the next night, the ſame movements and diſturbances in his camp, I thought it neceſſary to go the next morning myſelf, and to ſee him if poſſible; accordingly I ordered a company of Sepoys, and a troop of 30 horſemen that I had, to get themſelves in readineſs by ſix in the morning, at which hour the next morning I ſent Mr. Watts to inform him of my coming: It was ſeven before I arrived at his tent, and Mr. Watts informed me, that the Nabob was not to be ſeen; he had ſent to him, but had not ſeen him: I went into the outer tent, taking piſtols in my hand for my own ſecurity, and ſat down there till I ſhould hear further:—As it is a cuſtom in India, when they mean ill to a perſon that viſits them in camp, to cut the tent cords, and let the tent fall on the perſon they mean to deſtroy, I deſired Captain Iſer to place two of the troopers round the tent, to prevent any miſchief of that kind; and finding the Nabob would not ſee me, I rode away, and left Mr.

Watts

Watts to inform him of my buſineſs: This the Nabob repreſented to the governor and council, as a grievous inſult, for which reaſon I received ſeveral extraordinary letters from the Board, which are upon the correſpondence, with my anſwers; and at my return to Calcutta, I deſired a ſtrict enquiry might be made into the matter; and the enquiry was made.

[Conſultations, Fort William, 28 September 1761, Letter to Colonel Coote read]

I was ordered by the Select Committee to withdraw the protection from Ramnarrain, which I did accordingly; he was ſoon after murdered, and his treaſure ſeized.

[Letter, 18 June, 1761, to Colonel Coote, for Ramnarrain's ſuſpenſion, read.]

[17 July, Colonel Coote's Letter in anſwer to d°. read.]

The withdrawing the protection from Ramnarrain was in effect giving him up to the power of the Nabob.

The papers read in the courſe of the above evidence are annexed in the Appendix, N° 13.

Your Committee having taken the evidence of Colonel Munro, a Member of the Houſe, at his expreſs deſire, that he might be at liberty to attend his private affairs in Scotland, they have added it to their report, though beyond the period to which they have been able to extend their preſent enquiry, as it has turned out.

Colonel Munro:—In April 1764 I was under the King's orders, from his Majeſty's ſecretaries of ſtate and war, to return to Europe with ſuch of his majeſty's troops as did not chuſe to inliſt into the Company's ſervice; I was accordingly to have embarked with the troops the beginning of May on board a Moco a ſhip, which was to ſail for Europe; but before I embarked there were two expreſſes arrived from Bengal, acquainting the Governor and Council at Bombay, that Shujah Dowla and Coſſim Ally Khan had marched into the province of Bengal, at the head of 60,000 men: That Major Adams who commanded the army was dead: That the ſettlement of Calcutta was in the utmoſt conſternation, and the Company's affairs in the utmoſt danger; they therefore requeſted, that the governor and council of Bombay would apply to me to go round immediately to take the command of the army with his Majeſty's troops, and as many as could be ſpared from the preſidency of Bombay.—As his Majeſty's intention in ſending out his troops to India, by the orders I had, was to aſſiſt and defend the Company in their different ſettlements, I thought it would not be anſwering the intention of ſending them out to return and leave the Company's affairs in that ſituation; I therefore complied with the requeſt, and arrived at Calcutta with his Majeſty's troops, and a detachment of the Company's from Bombay, ſome time in the month of May 1764: Mr. Vanſittart, who was then governor, acquainted me that the army under the command of Major Carnac had been, ſince the death of Major Adams, and Shujah Dowla and his army had come into the province, upon the defenſive, and retreated before the enemy; but I am ſure, from Major Carnac's gallant behaviour upon every occaſion, that he will be able to give a proper account for his conduct in that campaign.—Mr. Vanſittart requeſted, that I would immediately repair with the troops I had carried round from Bombay, to join the army who were in cantonment at Patna, and take the command of them.—I found the army, Europeans as well as Sepoys, mutinous, deſerting to the enemy, threatning to carry off their officers to the enemy, demanding an augmentation of pay, demanding large ſums of money, which they ſaid had been promiſed them by the Nabob, and diſobedient to all order; 400 of the Europeans had gone off in a body, and joined the enemy ſome time before I joined the army: This being the ſituation the army was in, I fully determined to endeavour to conquer that mutinous diſpoſition in them before I would attempt to conquer the enemy:—I accordingly went with a detachment of the King and Company's Europeans from Patna, with four field pieces of artillery, to Chippera, one of the cantonments:—I think the very day, or the day after I arrived, a whole battalion of Sepoys, with their arms and accoutrements, went off to join the enemy; I immediately detached about 100 Europeans, and a battalion of Sepoys, whoſe officers told me they thought they could depend upon them not to deſert, with two field pieces, to endeavour to come up with the deſerters, and bring them back to me; the detachment came up with them in the night time, found them aſleep, took them priſoners, and carried them back to Chippera:—The officer who commanded the detachment, ſent me an expreſs, acquainting me with the hour he would arrive at Chippera with the priſoners.—I was ready to receive them with the troops under arms; upon their arrival at Chippera, I immediately ordered their officers to pick me out 50 of the men of the worſt characters, and who they thought might have enticed the battalion to deſert to the enemy; they did pick out 50; I deſired them to pick me out 24 men of thoſe 50 of the worſt characters: I immediately ordered a field court marſhal to be held by their own black officers, and after repreſenting to the officers the heinous crime the battalion had been guilty of, deſired they would immediately bring me their ſentence; they found them guilty of mutiny and deſertion, ſentenced them to ſuffer death, and left the manner to me; I ordered immediately four of the 24 to be tied to the guns, and the artillery officers to prepare to blow them away:—There was a remarkable circumſtance, four grenadiers repreſented, as they always had the poſt of honour, thought they were intitled to be firſt blown away; the four battalion men were untied from the guns, and the four grenadiers tied and blown away, upon which the European officers of the battalions of Sepoys, who were then in the field, came and told me, that the Sepoys would not ſuffer any more of the men to be blown away:—I ordered the artillery officers to load the four field pieces with grape ſhot, and drew up the Euro-

Europeans with the guns in their intervals; desired the officers to return at the heads of their battalions; ordered them immediately to ground their arms, and if one of them attempted to move, I would give orders to fire upon them, and treat them the same as if they were Serajah Dowlah's army.—They did ground their arms, and did not attempt to take them up again, upon which I ordered 16 more of the 24 to be tied to the guns by force, and blown away the same as the first, which was done: I immediately ordered the other four to be carried to a cantonment, where there had been a desertion of the Sepoys some time before, with positive orders to the commanding officer at that cantonment to blow them away in the same manner at the guns, which was accordingly done, and which put an end to the mutiny and desertion.

I prepared to take the field as early as possible after the rains with the army, and fixed the 15th of September for the rendezvous of the troops from their different cantonments:—A couple of days before the army marched, I had intelligence that the enemy had advanced several parties of horse, and had thrown up some breast works on the banks of the Soane, to impede the crossing of the troops:—I ordered Major Champion with a detachment and 4 field pieces to march and cross the Soane some miles below, where the army was to cross, after fixing with him the hour and day that I intended to arrive at the Soane with the army:—I desired that he might be at that time on the other side, and endeavour to dislodge the enemy, and cover the landing of the troops.—That officer was so pointed in executing his orders, he began to fire upon the enemy just as the van of the army appeared upon the banks of the Soane, and soon dislodged them, by which means the whole army, in 4 hours, was landed on the other side without the least molestation:—I continued to march on towards Buxar, where the enemy was:—The last 2 or 3 days march the line of march was a good deal harrassed by the enemy's cavalry, so much that there was 2 serjeants and 6 or 7 men of the advanced guard were killed:—Upon the 22d of October we arrived at Buxar, and encamped just without range of the enemy's shot; and upon my going to reconnoitre their situation with some of the field officers, I found the greatest part of them were entrenched with the Ganges upon their left and the fort or village of Buxar on their rear:—I intended to have attacked their camp about 1 or 2 in the morning of the 23d, and sent out spies to bring me some pieces of intelligence, such as to know whether I could bring my artillery on the right of their camp, resolving not to attack them on their left, that we might have a better chance to drive them into the Ganges than they should us: I likewise wanted to know in what part of their encampment the force of their artillery lay, and where the Vizier and Cossim Ally Khan's tent stood:—The spies did not return to camp by 12 o'clock at night:—I took it for granted they had been taken prisoners, and therefore resolved to put off the attack till the 24th in the morning: Two of the spies came in by day-light of the morning of the 23d, and told me, that the enemy were under arms all night, moving their artillery, and sending off their treasure and women in the night.—I went immediately with some officers to look at their disposition: I saw a good many of their troops under arms, but not out of their entrenchments.—The officers who were with me, as well as myself, thought they only meant to shew themselves in order to strike a terror into our troops, never imagining they would quit their lines in order to attack us; and as I never heard of a Black army before attacking a European army, I returned to our camp, wishing they would come out and attack us, for our army was encamped in order of battle.—About eight o'clock in the morning the field officer of the day came into my tent as I was at breakfast, and acquainted me, that the enemy's right was in motion, and he was sure they meant to attack us; I immediately went out with my reconnoitring glass in my hand, and saw and thought as he did, upon which I ordered the drums to beat immediately to arms, which was done, and the troops advanced from their encampment, and were in a few minutes ready to receive them:—The action lasted from nine till twelve; the enemy then gave way, went off very slowly, blowing up several tumbrels and three large magazines of powder as they went off.—I immediately ordered the line to break into columns and pursue; and two miles from the field of battle there was a rivulet, where the enemy had a bridge of boats; they pierced the boats, and sunk them before the rear of their army got over; by which means there was about 2000 of them drowned and sticking in the mud; but that was the best piece of Generalship Shujah Dowla shewed that day, because, if I could have crossed the rivulet with the army, I would either have taken or drowned his whole army in the Carnatic, and come up with his treasure and jewels, and Cossim Ally Khan's jewels, which I was informed, amounted to between two and three millions.

The strength of our army at this battle, were as follows:

Europeans in battalion, rank and file, 746; of which 250 were King's troops.—Artillery men 71.—European cavalry, 40.—In all, European 857, exclusive of officers.—Sepoys, rank and file, 5,297—Black cavalry 918: In all 7,072.—Train of artillery, 20 field pieces.—European officers killed 2, wounded 7.—Europeans killed 34, wounded 49.—Non-commissioned officers, killed 3, wounded 6.—Europeans killed and wounded 101.—Sepoys killed 205, wounded 414, missing 85.—Black cavalry, killed 45, wounded 24.—killed and wounded 847.—Artillery taken in the field 133 pieces of different sizes, all upon carriages, and most of them English carriages. The enemy was reported to be 60,000; but I am sure, there were not less than 40,000.—I am likewise sure, that there must have been 2,000 of them killed in the field of battle, exclusive of those drowned. And as I had not surgeons sufficient to dress our own wounded, and give them any assistance, I went every day for 5 days successively, to every man of their wounded in the field, and gave rice and water to such as would take it, and which was all the assistance I could give them.—The army remained at Buxar for several days, until hospitals were provided for the

wounded, and to bury the dead.—I then marched the army into Shujah Dowla's country, and ſent an expreſs to Calcutta, for further Directions from the Governor and Council.—The Mogul (Shah Allum) wrote me a letter the day after the battle, giving me joy of the victory over the Vizier, who had kept him as a ſtate priſoner, and deſiring I would take him under my protection; and acquainting me, that though he was with the Vizier in camp, he had left him the night before the battle.—My anſwer to this letter, was as nearly as I can remember, that I would immediately ſend an expreſs to Mr. Vanſittart, the Governor at Calcutta, but that I would not take him under protection until I knew how far ſuch a ſtep might be proper, and for the intereſt of the Company.—He ſent to me, and wrote to me repeatedly before I had an anſwer from Calcutta, deſiring me to come to him, for he had ſomething very particular to communicate to me: I at laſt ſent him word, that I would wait upon him, provided he would not look upon himſelf as under the Engliſh protection; to which he conſented.—When I waited upon him, he told me, that if the Engliſh took him under protection, he would give them Shujah Dowla's country, that or any thing elſe that they pleaſed to demand, and repeated many grievances and hardſhips that Shujah Dowla laid him under; and ſaid, he was only his ſtate priſoner.—I continued to march the army on towards Banaras; and the Mogul continued to march with his guards, and encamped every night pretty cloſe to our encampment. Before the army arrived at Banaras, I had an anſwer from the Governor and Council, who conſented, that the King ſhould be taken under protection.—Upon the army's arriving at Banaras, Shujah Dowla ſent me his miniſter Beney Bahadre, with overtures of peace, which I refuſed, becauſe I inſiſted upon it in the firſt inſtance, that he would deliver me up Coſſim Ally Kuan and Sumro; the former had ordered ſo many of the ſubjects of Great Britain to be maſſacred, and the latter undertook to put the horrid crime in execution, when no man in the Nabob's army would undertake it but himſelf.—Sumro was a German, and a general officer; and had been before a ſerjeant in the French ſervice, deſerted from them to us, and from us to Coſſim Ally Khan.—He commanded Shujah Dowla's artillery at the battle of Buxar, and had 3 or 400 French deſerters from our army under his command.—Bene Bahadre told me, Shujah Dowla never could think of giving up Coſſim Ally Khan or Sumro, but if I paſſed from that demand, I might have any other terms I pleaſed; he ſaid, Shujah Dowlah would give 25 lack of rupees, to defray the expences the Company had been at in the war.—25 lack to the army; and 8 lack for myſelf.—This he told me in the preſence of Captain Stables and Gordon, who were my aid de camps, and both now in England, Mr. Stewart, my ſecretary, and my interpreter.—My anſwer was, if he gave me all the lacks in his treaſury, I would make no peace with him, until he had delivered me up thoſe murdering raſcals, for I never could think that my receiving 11 or 12 lack of rupees, was a ſufficient atonement for the blood of thoſe unfortunate gentlemen who were murdered at Patna, nor a ſufficient atonement to the weeping parents, friends, and relations, of thoſe unfortunate gentlemen; theſe were my very words.—Upon this, Bene Bahadre and I parted.—He returned a ſecond time, with aſſurances from Shujah Dowla, that if I made peace with him, he would put me upon a method of laying hold both of Coſſim and Sumro; and made uſe of all the perſuaſive arguments he could, to induce me to make peace.—I ſtill inſiſted upon my firſt preliminary: Bene Bahadre deſired, if that was the caſe, that I would permit Captain Stables, who ſpoke the country language, to return with him to the Nabob's camp; that the Nabob wanted to ſpeak with Captain Stables.—I told Captain Stables, that as I was fully determined never to depart from his giving up Coſſim Ally Khan, and Sumro in particular, I did not wiſh or adviſe him to go, for that they might uſe him the ſame way as the other unfortunate gentlemen.—Captain Stables replied, that he would with pleaſure riſk his own life; could he be the inſtrument of bringing thoſe two to be made public examples of.—He accordingly went with Bene Bahadre to the Nabob's camp, and when he returned, he told me, that ſince he found I was fully determined to have Coſſim and Sumro, that in regard to Coſſim, he would not by any manner of means deliver him up, but let him eſcape.—But as to Sumro, if I ſent 2 or 3 gentlemen from the Engliſh camp who knew Sumro, he would aſk Sumro to an entertainment; and in preſence of thoſe gentlemen, he would order him to be put to death.---He offered Captain Stables a ſum of money, to endeavour to prevail upon me to agree to his terms; but as I never would, the next thing to be conſidered was, the manner of driving Shujah Dowla intirely out of his country, who was then at Lucknow with the remains of his army; and to conſider of the manner of ſettling his country.---I wrote to Calcutta, to the Governor and Council, ſent them a letter the King wrote to me much about this time; propoſing, that he ſhould have ſo much of Shujah Dowla's country, and cede the reſt to the Company; and requeſt me, that I would make no peace with Shujah Dowla.---I ſent this letter to Calcutta, deſiring to know the directions of the Governor and Council with regard to this matter; and acquainting them likewiſe, that I was determined to leave the army ſo as to return to Calcutta, to embark with the laſt ſhip that ſhould ſail that ſeaſon with his Majeſty's troops.---The Governor and Council ſent a copy of a treaty to be executed by the King, and Mr. Marriot, Mr. Billers, who was chief of Patna, and Mr. Daker, to be preſent at the executing of this treaty.---The treaty with the King was executed.

As ſo much time had been taken up by theſe tranſactions, and the time drawing near for my quitting the command, Major Carnac was ordered by the Governor and Council to repair immediately to take the command.---I left the army the 6th of January 1765. and met Major Carnac upon his way to take the command; I told him what my plan of operations would be, had I remained in the command; and which were as follows: As I hold it a rule never to be departed from in that country, not to come to a general action with the army, except where every

thing

thing is at ſtake; I determined, as we were in poſſeſſion of I believe the greateſt part of Shujah Dowla's country, to have remained ſome time longer in camp, as his army muſt of courſe diſperſe when his money was out; and if I found that would take up too much time, I would march the army towards Lucknar, and if he came to action, to have then riſked a battle with him, and taken poſſeſſion of Lucknar and Illahabad, which was his whole country, with what he had in poſſeſſion; I told this to Major Carnac, who ſaid, he would follow the ſame plan.

The Company's governor and council, and all the ſervants at the ſettlement of Calcutta or elſewhere, were under no apprehenſions from what Shujah Dowla or Coſſim Ally Khan, could do after the battle of Buxar, as will appear from ſeveral letters wrote me from the preſidency, and by their letters home, after the battle of Buxar.—The Company's inveſtments for Europe were carried on that year in the ſame manner as uſual; they had no enemy nearer the ſettlement of Calcutta than 800 miles, and that enemy at the head of the remains of a conquered army: That was the ſituation I left the country in; and before I embarked for Europe, and before General Carnac joined the army, Sir Robert Fletcher marched the army, took poſſeſſion of Illahabad and Lucknow; and Shujah Dowla's army, as I underſtood, totally diſperſed.

If, at the time you found the army in that mutinous diſpoſition, they were regularly paid?

They were.

Whether you know of any promiſe that had been made them of an increaſe of pay, or of any promiſe of a preſent made from the Nabob?

I am ſure there was no promiſe of an increaſe of pay; nor do I know of any promiſe of a preſent; but I heard that Major Adams told them, they ſhould have a preſent from the Nabob, if they drove the troops out of the country.

What do you apprehend, was the cauſe of that mutinous diſpoſition?

From the different actions the troops were in with Coſſim Ally Khan, and their being able to drive him from poſt to poſt, under that gallant officer Major Adams; they thought themſelves intitled to benefit by that ſucceſs, and I ſuppoſe (owing to the troops being in the field) there muſt have been a relaxation of diſcipline.—Theſe are the motives that I ſuppoſe induced them to mutiny, and probably there might have been large promiſes from the enemy if they would join them.

Of what nation were theſe Europeans that mutinied, and deſerted to the enemy?

Moſtly French—and I believe ſome Germans—don't know whether there were any Engliſh.

Whether thoſe Europeans were mixed with the Engliſh Companies, or whether they were in a corps by themſelves?

They were mixed with the Engliſh Companies.—Did not get back any of thoſe deſerters except one.

Where do the Indian princes get their artillery and gunpowder?

Their artillery they get from England, Holland, and France.—For while I was in India; there was hardly a ſhip came there, that did not ſell them cannon and ſmall arms.—The gunpowder they make the moſt of it themſelves.—They caſt ſome cannon—but there is no black prince that caſt cannon but the King of Travelcore.—Shot they caſt in abundance.

What number of Sepoys can be got in the Eaſt-Indies?

I believe any number you pleaſe.—The cannon and military ſtores are ſmuggled into the country, and I believe the Company have made ſome examples.—I always thought it a very great ſcandal, that ſuch things ſhould be ſuffered.—I think ſuch a practice might be eaſily prevented, as to the Engliſh ſmuggling.

What do you apprehend would be the means of making the Sepoys faithful and good ſoldiers?

One method is a ſtrict diſcipline;—another, is having them to act with the Europeans;—another, ſuffering them their own cuſtoms and manners with regard to religion, when it does not interfere with their duty, to be well paid and have good cloathing, and increaſing the number of European officers, good care when they are ſick, and uſing them well in every reſpect while they behave well.

What is your opinion of preſerving our conqueſts in India?

In the firſt place, always to keep a proper force of Europeans in that country; never ſuffering the Company's ſervants to make war againſt the country powers, until it is evident that they are the firſt aggreſſors; and making proper laws in the country, ſo as that the executive power may be properly executed.

What force of Europeans ſhould be kept in that country, and Bengal particularly?

I think never leſs than an eſtabliſhment of 3000 men—and I ſhould rather think, if they could be ſpared from this country, they ought to be 4000; not that I think 3000 men are ſufficient to defend that country againſt all the country powers who may make war againſt the Engliſh; but my reaſon for ſaying, that another 1000 beſides the 3000 might be neceſſary, would be to counterbalance the black troops who muſt be neceſſarily employed in that country, and who are capable of being taught diſcipline almoſt equal to the Europeans.

What number of Sepoys is a proper and ſafe proportion for 3000 Europeans?

About four parts in five, or more.

What do you think might be the ſupply of recruits neceſſary to maintain an eſtabliſhment of 3000 men in that country?

About 500 men yearly in time of peace.

What

What is your opinion of the expediency of employing foreigners in that country, and particularly Germans and Swiſs?

That any foreigners whatſoever never ought to be employed by the Engliſh in that country.—have already given an example, that when an enemy was in the field they deſerted to them; and that they are of a quite different religion, if they are of any at all.—I therefore think they would upon every occaſion, deſert from us to to thoſe of the ſame religion as themſelves; and it has always been found, that they do ſo.—Another reaſon is, that as we have but juſt the number that is abſolutely neceſſary in that country, I don't think they can be depended upon in time of action.

Do you know whether there have been any corps of Swiſs or German proteſtants in India, under their own officers?

I don't know of any ſuch corps.

What is your opinion, if they had corps of Swiſs?

I am againſt corps of foreigners, of Swiſs or Germans;—but as to having ſome mixed, I have no objection to it;—it might do very well.

What is your opinion of employing as private men the Catholicks from Ireland?

I think they might be very well and ſafely employed.—I am always for having the greateſt number of troops from this country.

Whether European cavalry would be neceſſary?

Certainly of very great uſe.

What number would you recommend out of theſe 3000 to be European cavalry?

At leaſt one third.

What proportion of the black troops ought to be cavalry?

If it was meant to have European cavalry, I would have no eſtabliſhment of black cavalry at all, being of no uſe in time of peace; and in time of war only of uſe to keep the line quiet on the march.

Whether it has not been the cuſtom for time immemorial, for Captains of Engliſh ſhips to ſell arms and military ſtores to the natives of India?

The time I was in India, it was a cuſtom; and have heard, it was always the cuſtom.

Whether the French, Dutch, and Danes, and all other nations, do not likewiſe ſell military ſtores?

Always heard that they did.

Whether you think there is a probability of preventing other nations from doing it?

No.

Whether it might not be a dangerous experiment to train the Sepoys ſo as to make them equal to Europeans?

It may be a dangerous one, but it will ſtill be a more dangerous one not to do it.

Whether you know or have heard of any other great deſertion, except what you have mentioned?

Not from my own experience, but have heard the officers ſay, that foreigners always would deſert.—About a fifth or ſixth part of the private men might be foreigners, to be mixed with the other troops.

Was you offered a Jaghire by the King?

The King gave me a Jaghire—I was in poſſeſſion of it; of £. 12,500 a year for life upon ſome of the provinces in Bengal, for my ſervices to him and the country.—Upon my receipt of it, I wrote immediately to Mr. Spencer, who was governor at Calcutta, acquainting him with the King's having given me a Jaghire.—I received his anſwer, after I had quitted the command of the army,—Mr. Spencer acquainted me, that my receiving ſuch a Jaghire was ſo much contrary to the intereſt of the Company, that they never would ſuffer me to hold it; that I might remember the Company's having gone to law with Lord Clive about his Jaghire; and requeſted, that I would deliver it up to the Nabob when I ſaw him, who would not only behave handſomely upon the occaſion, but that the Company would never ſee me the ſufferer from ſuch an act, after the ſervices I had done them.—From that moment, I reſolved to deliver it up to the Nabob when I ſaw him, and upon my arrival at Muxadavad, at his palace, I waited on the Nabob, who was then ill; I told him, that I had got a Jaghire from the King, but as I was about to leave the country, I would leave it with him.—This was in the preſence of Mr. Middleton, reſident at the Durbar, Captains Gordon and Stables:—The Nabob upon receiving the Jaghire, ſmiled, and ſaid, this is a piece of generoſity I am little accuſtomed to, but if I live, you ſhall not be the ſufferer; and deſired his miniſter Nundcomar, to deſire the interpreter to acquaint me, that he begged my acceptance of two lack of rupees, which would be at Calcutta much about the time that I arrived there.—A few days after my arrival at Calcutta, I received a letter from the Nabob's ſon, acquainting me with his father's death, requeſting my intereſt for him to ſucceed his father as Subah, and acquainting me, that he knew the whole tranſaction of the Jaghire, and the promiſes his father made me, and aſſuring me, that he would make them good; and in this ſituation I left my jaghire and my lacks.—I had a letter from Mr. Spencer ſince I came to England, acquainting me, that he had acquainted my Lord Clive, of the demands I had upon the government; that his Lordſhip promiſed him, if there was ſo much remaining of the Nabob's outſtanding debts, he would order the payment of the two lack of rupees to my attorney.—I am very happy from his Lordſhip's eminent ſervices to this country and the Company, that he has a more reſponſible fund for the payment of his Jaghire; at the ſame time, I cannot help regretting,

that

that his Lordſhip did not think my two years rent deſerved a better fund than the Nabob's outſtanding debts.—Let my ſmall ſervices be rewarded as they may; let individuals think of them as they pleaſe; I hope facts will come out before this Committee is at an end, to ſhew them and the world that this country has been ſerved; that this Eaſt India Company has been ſaved by more than one or two men, many brave and gallant men have done honour to their King, have done ſervice to this country, and have ſaved the Eaſt India Company; and ſome of them have loſt their lives in the cauſe.—I never have received any part of the two lack, nor any preſent from the Eaſt India Company.

Whether at the time the Mogul granted the Jaghire, the Nabob paid any revenues or acknowledgements to the Mogul?

He did not, nor did he pay any of the royal revenues from Bengal, which was ſtipulated to have been paid to the Mogul, either by the Nabob or the Company, I don't know which.

Whether this is not the firſt time that you have mentioned the circumſtance of Mr. Spencer's letter?

It is the firſt time, and probably will be the laſt time; and I ſhould not have mentioned it now if it had not happened to have come in as I thought properly, in anſwer to a queſtion that was aſked me; and becauſe when Lord Clive was upon the ſpot, from his not having ordered the payment of it, I thought his Lordſhip did not think I deſerved it, and I gave him no trouble about it, and I knew it was not in my Lord Clive's power to do it when he came home.

Whether you think it would have been proper for Lord Clive to have ordered the Nabob to pay that money?

Had I been in his Lordſhip's ſituation, and he in mine, I certainly would have ordered the Nabob to pay it.

Did you ever hear that Lord Clive ordered the Nabob to pay ſuch a thing to any man living?

No.

Did you ever hear of any money that was offered to Mr. Spencer, if he would continue Nundcomer about the perſon of the Nabob?

When I came down to Calcutta, Mr. Spencer told me, that he was offered ſeveral lack of rupees (about 9, 10, or 11 lack, can't ſay exactly) to ſupport Nundcomar, which he refuſed.

Whether you know of any orders ſent by the Directors abroad, to put the 2 lack promiſed you by the Nabob, in a courſe of payment?

To the beſt of my remembrance, I never had any public intimation from the Court of Directors, that they had ſent orders to that purpoſe, but ſome of the Directors told me privately, that the Nabob was to be put under ſtoppages of ſo much yearly for the payment of the donation to the navy, the reſtitution, and the 2 lack which he promiſed to pay me, and that is all I know of the matter.

Did you make any application to the Mogul for your Jaghire?

No—nor no perſon for me.

Sir George Colebrooke (chairman of the Eaſt India Company) informed the Committee, that orders was ſent out laſt March or April twelve months, to reduce the income of the Nabob to 16 lack of rupees during his minority, and to apply the ſurplus of his revenue to the payment of the reſtitution, and to Colonel Monro's 2 lack of rupees.

Do you believe that money will be paid?

I have no doubt about it.

[43d paragraph general letter to Bengal, 10 April, 1771, read]

Colonel Monro,

Had you an offer of the Dewanny from the Company?

Yes.—The King, when I firſt ſaw him, offered me the Dewanny.—He told me he had offered it before.—I believe he offered it to Sir Eyre Coote after the Mogul's father's death—He offered it before that to Major Carnac, as I am informed; and Mr. Vanſittart, before I joined the army, aſſured me that he could have had the Dewanny, but did not know how far he could be juſtified in ſuch an act, or how far it might tend to the intereſt of the Company.—My reaſons for not accepting the offer were, that I formed no plans of any kind, but that of extricating the Company from the danger that threatened them.

The Governor and Council were, or ought to be, the judges what was, or was not, for the intereſt of the Company.—I was, or ought to be, the proper judge what was for the honour of his Majeſty's troops to be concerned in; and as Meer Jaffier had been but juſt placed upon the Muſnud, for the ſecond time, and as the Company's affairs did not require depoſing him, nor his own conduct deſerve it at that time; I thought it would neither be for the credit of their troops, or the honour of the commanding officer, to adopt ſuch a meaſure—So much was this my opinion, ſo well did I know Mr. Vanſittart's ſentiments upon that ſubject, before I joined the army, that I do not remember I ever ſaid any thing to him about it.—Theſe were my reaſons for not accepting the King's offer.

Whether the Mogul could have effectually granted the Dewanny to the Company without the Nabob's conſent?

I think the Mogul could and would have done any thing at that time that I deſired him, without the conſent of the Nabob, and the Company would have reaped any benefit from that grant of the King's that they pleaſed, becauſe ever ſince Coſſim Ally Khan had been drove out of the country, the Company themſelves have been the Nabob, there has been only a nominal Nabob.

After the battle of Buxar, did you receive any letter from the Governor and Council, acknowledging the merit of your ſervices upon that occaſion?

I have received ſeveral.—I imagine that one I received immediately after the battle is before the Committee.

Did you receive any letter from the Court of Directors here?

No, I did not—but the chairman and deputy chairman came to me, at my return, to make ſuch acknowledgement.

Did you make any application to the Directors at your return, upon the ſubject of the Jaghire and 2 lack?

Yes.

What anſwer had you?

I had no public anſwer.

[Letter from preſident, &c. of Fort William, to Major Munro, 6 November 1764, read.]

Whether for giving up the Jaghire of £. 12,500 a year, and for the ſervices performed to the Company, you have ever received from the Company any reward whatſoever?

None of any kind whatever.

Whether you did not underſtand from Mr. Spencer (the Preſident at Calcutta) that you ſhould have amends made you by the Company for giving up the Jaghire?

I do confeſs that I did; and I alſo ſay, that could I have conceived that the Company would have ſerved me ſo ungratefully in many reſpects, ſince my arrival from India, I never would have given up my Jaghire.

Whether after the battle of Buxar, you received any private donations from any of the Eaſtern Princes?

Upon the army encamping at Banaras, the officer who commanded the detachment in the town, wrote me a card, acquainting me that a Rajah had ſomething very particular to communicate to me, and if I granted his requeſt, he would give me 4 lack of rupees, and a handſome preſent to the officer.—The requeſt he made me was to diſpoſſeſs Rajah Bulwand Sing, who was Zemindar, from the collection of the country.—I told him I would not; I was deſired to make no alteration of any kind.—About the time I was quitting the army, Bulwand Sing hearing I had rejected this offer, came to me, and told me that he was ſenſible of my favours to him, and begged my acceptance of 80,000 rupees, which is £. 10,000.—and except that, from the day I commanded the army, which was near five years, further than the common cuſtomary compliments, which are of ſmall amount, and which I made in my turn to others; I ſolemnly declare, I never received a ſingle rupee by way of preſent, either in money or jewels.—While I had the command of that army, I refuſed the offers of above £. 300,000 at different times, for making alterations in the offices of the government, I recollect that at my leaving the country, the Nabob ſent £. 3000 for me, and £. 3000 among the officers of my family, which are the uſual preſents to the commanding officer.

How long was you in Bengal?

From May 1764 to the end of February or beginning of March 1765.

When did the ſpirit of mutiny firſt ſhew itſelf in the army?

Before I came to the command.

Did you levy any contribution at Banaras, or elſewhere?

I never did lay the Company under any contributions of any kind; the merchants of Banaras gave 4 lack of rupees to the army, for protection to themſelves and their effects.—I immediately acquainted the Governor and Council with it, to have their ſanction for the army to receive it—which is upon the Company's records; and they gave their conſent.

Was that the only place where any ſuch contribution was given?

The only one in my time.

What proportion had you of the 4 lack, as commander in chief?

An eighth part.

Mr. Strachey.

Whether you ever heard Lord Clive ſay, that Mr. Spencer had applied to his Lordſhip to apply to the Nabob for payment of the 2 lack of rupees, promiſed to Colonel Munro?

Never did—and I think that had Mr. Spencer mentioned that circumſtance to Lord Clive, it was moſt probable that his Lordſhip would have mentioned it to me, who was his ſecretary, and conſtantly with him.

General Carnac.

The ſame queſtion?

I never did; and I had not a doubt till this day, but that the Nabob had made Colonel Munro ſuch an acknowledgement as his ſervices deſerved.

Colonel Munro.

Is not Banaras one of the richeſt cities in India?

Yes.

What is the rate of intereſt at Banaras?

Can't tell, but thinks it lower there than any where elſe.

How long was you in quelling the mutiny, and reſtoring the army to a proper diſcipline?

From the beginning of June to ſome time in July, when I made the example I have before mentioned.

The papers read in the courſe of the above evidence are annexed in the appendix, N°. 14.

Your

Your Committee, in reading over the report, judged it neceſſary to read further papers relating to Lord Clive's Jaghire and preſents, which, together with his Lordſhip's explanation of the latter, are added in the appendix, N° 15.

APPENDIX.

N° 1.

Liſt of Charters, or Letters Patents, granted to the Eaſt-India Company; read.

43d Eliz. A charter, or letters patent, of a ſpecial incorporation of merchants, by the name of the Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading into the Eaſt-Indies, with divers privileges to them and their ſucceſſors, for 15 years from Chriſtmas laſt.

7th James, 31ſt May. A charter, or letters patent of incorporation, to the ſaid governor and company, with divers privileges to them and their ſucceſſors for ever.

8th James. A charter, or letters patent, of privilege, that neither the ſaid governor and company, nor their goods and merchandizes, ſhall be hereafter ſued, vexed, ſeized, arreſted, moleſted, or diſquieted, in reſpect of their trading; and divers other privileges.

20th James. A charter, or letters patent, of privilege, for the ſaid governor and company, to chaſtiſe and correct all Engliſh perſons reſiding in the Eaſt-Indies, and committing any miſdemeanor, either with martial law, or otherwiſe.

22d James. A charter, or letters patent, of a pardon to the ſaid governor and company, for certain offences, and a grant unto them of ſuch ſums of money, and other goods and merchandizes, as did belong to the King.

2d Car. I. A charter, or letters patent, to the ſaid governor and company, impowering them to erect mills and houſes for making into gunpowder all ſuch ſalt-petre as they ſhall import.

12th Car. II. 11th January. A charter, or letters patent, of licence, for the ſaid governor and company to enter upon, take, and poſſeſs, the iſland of Roone alias Pula Roone, and to regain the ſame from the Netherland Eaſt-India company, and to plant, huſband, manage, retain, and keep the ſame.

13th Car. II. A charter or letters patent, to the governor and company aforeſaid, of divers privileges to them and their ſucceſſors.

20th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of diſcharge to the ſaid governor and company, for ſelling two Eaſt-India prizes, and for the monies raiſed thereby.

20th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the ſaid governor and company, of all that iſland and port of Bombay, to them, and their ſucceſſors.

24th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of releaſe to the ſaid governor and company, of ſeveral covenants heretofore made between them and the commiſſioners of the navy, touching ſome ſhips ſent to the Eaſt-Indies.

25th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of confirmation, to the ſaid governor and company, of articles concerning the ſale of four Dutch prizes.

25th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the ſaid governor and company, of all that the iſland of Saint Helena, to them, and their ſucceſſors.

26th Car. II. A charter, or letters patent, of a diſcharge to the ſaid governor and company, for monies made by the ſale of four Dutch prizes.

28th Car. II. 5th October. A charter, or letters patent, to the ſaid governor and company, of confirmation of their privileges.

35th Car. II. 1ſt Auguſt. A charter, or letters patent, authorizing the Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, to grant and give out commiſſions to ſuch as the ſaid governor and company ſhould name and recommend, to aid and aſſiſt them againſt the King of Bantum.

35th Car. II. 9th Auguſt. A charter, or letters patent, of privileges, for the ſaid governor and company, rendering their charter of 3d April, 13th of his reign, more effectual and complete.

35th Car. II. 14th September. A charter, or letters patent, of a warrant, to the Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, to aſſiſt the ſaid governor and company againſt the King of Bantum.

1ſt James II. A charter, or letters patent, of proclamation, reſtraining all his Majeſty's ſubjects, but the ſaid governor and company, and their agents, from trading to the Eaſt-Indies.

2d James II. A charter, or letters patent, of confirmation, to the ſaid governor and company, of their former charters and privileges.

5th William III. 7th October. A charter, or letters patent, of confirmation, to the ſaid governor and company, of their privileges.

5th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of diſcharge, to the ſaid governor and company, for the 10th part of prizes taken by them, and due to his Majeſty, &c.

5th William III. A charter, or letters patent, preſcribing orders and directions, for the ſaid governor and company.

6th William III. A charter, or letters patent, preſcribing orders and directions, for the ſaid governor and company.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, declaring what number of votes each member of the ſaid company ſhall have, which is according to his or her proportion of ſtock.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of incorporation, impowering certain perſons to trade to the Eaſt-Indies, by the name of the general ſociety, entitled to the advantages given by an act of parliament, for raiſing £.2,000,000. for the ſervice of the Crown.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of incorporation of merchants, by the name of the Engliſh company, trading to the Eaſt-Indies.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, appointing Hugh Boſcawen, and others, to take ſubſcriptions for a general ſociety, to have liberty and power to trade to the Eaſt Indies.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of the ſchedule, marked A, containing the draught of a charter for the ſaid general ſociety.

10th William III. A charter, or letters patent, of the ſchedule, marked B, containing the draught of a charter for the aforeſaid Engliſh Company.

1ſt Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of an indenture tripartite, between the Queen on the firſt part, the governor and company of merchants of London trading to the Eaſt Indies of the ſecond part, and the Engliſh Company trading to the Eaſt-Indies of the third part; thereby granting the ſaid two companies power to trade with a joint ſtock, and divers other privileges.

4th Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of releaſe, to the governor and company of merchants of London trading into the Eaſt-Indies, of all offences and crimes committed contrary to an act of parliament.

8th Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to the Engliſh Company, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, of all debts and ſums of money, due to the governor and company of merchants of London trading into the Eaſt-Indies.

8th Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of acceptance of a ſurrender made by the governor and company of merchants of London, trading into the Eaſt-Indies, of their charters, &c.

8th Anne. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to Sir Jonathan Andrews, and others, of all debts, &c. due to the aforeſaid governor and company, before the ſurrender of their charters: A ſchedule of which debts is mentioned in an indenture, dated 21ſt March laſt between the ſaid governor and company, and her Majeſty.

13th George I. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to the united Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, of incorporation of Mayor and Aldermen at Madraſs Patnam, at Bombay, and at Calcutta, with divers privileges to them, and their ſucceſſors.

1ſt George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant, to the ſaid United Company, of all fines, ſet upon any perſons by virtue of the laſt recited charter or letters patent.

2d George II. A charter, or letters patent, impowering the Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, at the requeſt of the ſaid United Company, to give ample powers to the commanders of ſhips belonging to the ſaid Company, to take, ſeize, and deſtroy, any foreign ſhips trading from the Auſtrian Netherlands to the Eaſt-Indies, for 6 years, from the 20th of May laſt.

26th George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the ſaid United Company of incorporation of mayor and aldermen at Madraſpatnam, at Bombay, and at Calcutta, with divers privileges to them and their ſucceſſors.

31ſt George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the ſaid United Company, of plunder and booty.

31ſt George II. A charter, or letters patent, of grant to the ſaid United Company, of plunder and booty.

1ſt George III. A charter, or letters patent, of commiſſion to the ſaid United Company, for the trying of pirates at Fort Saint George.

1ſt George III. A charter, or letters patent, to the ſaid United Company, of a commiſſion, for the trying of pirates at Fort Marlborough.

1ſt George III. A charter, or letters patent, of commiſſion to the ſaid United Company, for trying of pirates at Bombay.

1ſt George III. A charter, or letters patent, of commiſſion to the ſaid United Company, for trying of pirates at Fort William.

Liſt of Acts read.

9th and 10th Wm. III. An act for raiſing a ſum not exceeding two millions, upon a fund for payment of annuities, after the rate of eight pounds per centum per annum, and for ſettling the trade to the Eaſt-Indies.

1ſt Anne. cap. 12. S. 113. An act for granting an aid to her Majeſty, by divers ſubſidies, and a land tax.

6th Anne. cap. 3. An act for better ſecuring the duties of Eaſt India goods.

6th Anne. cap. 17. An act for aſſuring to the Engliſh Company, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, on account of the united ſtock, a longer time in the fund and trade therein-mentioned; and for raiſing thereby the ſum of twelve hundred thouſand pounds for carrying on the war, and other her Majeſty's occaſions.

5th Geo. 1ſt. cap. 21. An act for the better ſecuring the lawful trade of his Majeſty's ſubjects, to and from the Eaſt-Indies; and for the more effectual preventing all his Majeſty's ſubjects trading thither under foreign commiſſions.

7th

7th Geo. 1ſt. cap. 5. S. 32 and 33. An act to enable the South Sea Company, to ingraft part of their capital ſtock and fund into the ſtock and fund of the Bank of England, and another part thereof into the ſtock and fund of the Eaſt-India Company; and for giving further time for payments to be made by the South Sea Company, to the uſe of the public.

7 Geo. 1ſt. cap. 21. An act for the further preventing his Majeſty's ſubjects from trading to the Eaſt-Indies under foreign commiſſions, and for encouraging and further ſecuring the lawful trade thereto, and for further regulating the pilots of Dover, Deal, and the iſle of Thanet.

9th Geo. 1ſt. cap. 26 An act to prevent his Majeſty's ſubjects from ſubſcribing, or being concerned in encouraging or promoting, any ſubſcription for an Eaſt-India Company in the Auſtrian Netherlands; and for the better ſecuring the lawful trade of his Majeſty's ſubjects to and from the Eaſt-Indies.

3d Geo. 2d. cap. 14. An act for reducing the annuity or fund of the United Eaſt-India Company, and for aſcertaining their right of trade to the Eaſt-Indies; and the continuance of their corporation for that purpoſe, upon the terms therein mentioned.

3d Geo. 2d. cap. 20. An act for taking off certain duties on ſalt, and for making good any deficiencies in the funds that may happen thereby, and for charging the reduced annuity payable to the Eaſt-India Company on the aggregate fund, and for relief of Matthew Lyon, executor of Matthew Page, deceaſed, in reſpect of the duty for ſalt loſt by the overflowing of the river Merſey, in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and twenty-four.

17th Geo. 2d. cap. 17. An act for granting to his Majeſty the ſurplus or remainder of the monies ariſen or to ariſe by the duties on ſpirituous liquors, granted by an act of the laſt ſeſſion of parliament; and for explaining and amending the ſaid act, in relation to the retailers of ſuch liquors; and for eſtabliſhing an agreement with the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies.

27th Geo. 2d. cap. 9. An act for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion of officers and ſoldiers in the ſervice of the United Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies; and for the puniſhment of offences committed in the Eaſt-Indies, or at the iſland of Saint Helena.

1ſt Geo. 3d. cap. 14. An act to extend the proviſions relating to the holding of courts martial, and to the puniſhment of offences committed in the Eaſt Indies, contained in the act, made in the twenty-ſeventh year of his late Majeſty's reign, intituled, An act for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion of officers and ſoldiers in the ſervice of the United Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies; and for the puniſhment of offences committed in the Eaſt-Indies, or at the Iſland of Saint Helena, to the ſaid Company's ſettlement of Fort Marlborough; and to ſuch other principal ſettlements, wherein the ſaid Company may be hereafter impowered to hold courts of judicature.

7th Geo. 3d. cap. 56. An act for taking off the inland duty of one ſhilling per pound weight upon all black and ſinglo teas conſumed in Great-Britain; and for granting a drawback upon the exportation of teas to Ireland and the Britiſh dominions in America, for a limited time, upon ſuch indemnification to be made in reſpect thereof by the Eaſt-India Company as is therein mentioned; for permitting the exportation of teas in ſmaller quantities than one lot to Ireland, or the ſaid dominions in America; and for preventing teas ſeized and condemned from being conſumed in Great-Britain.

7th Geo. 3d. cap. 57. An act for eſtabliſhing an agreement for the payment of the annual ſum of four hundred thouſand pounds, for a limited time, by the Eaſt India Company, in reſpect of the territorial acquiſitions, and revenues, lately obtained in the Eaſt Indies.

9th Geo. 3d. cap. 24. An act for carrying into execution certain propoſals made by the Eaſt-India Company, for the payment of the annual ſum of four hundred thouſand pounds, for a limited time, in reſpect of the territorial acquiſitions, and revenues, lately obtained in the Eaſt-Indies.

10th Geo. 3d. cap. 47. An act for better regulating perſons employed in the ſervice of the Eaſt-India Company; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

Military officers covenant, from July 1770, to the preſent time.

Military, 1770.

This indenture made the Day of in the year of the reign of our ſovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred between A. B. of London, Eſquire, of the one part, and the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, of the other part: Whereas the Court of Directors for the affairs of the ſaid United Company have granted a commiſſion to the ſaid A. B. appointing him Captain of foot in their military forces in the Eaſt Indies: Now this indenture witneſſeth, and the ſaid A. B. in compliance with a reſolution of a general court of the ſaid United Company, and in conſideration of what he is, or ſhall be, entitled to receive from the ſaid Company, in reſpect of his ſaid ſervice, or in reſpect of any other military ſtation or employment, or which the ſaid A. B. may hereafter be employed by the ſaid United Company, or their Court of Directors, doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree to and with the ſaid United Company, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall not, nor will at any time or times hereafter during his being employed in the ſaid Company's ſervice, in any ſtation or capacity whatſoever, either by himſelf or by any other perſon or perſons whomſoever, in truſt for him or for his uſe, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or

agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift or grant of lands, or rents for revenues iſſuing out of lands, or any territorial poſſeſſion, juriſdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatſoever, from any of the Indian princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their miniſters, ſervants, or agents, for any ſervice or ſervices, or upon any account or pretence whatſoever, without the licence or conſent of the Court of Directors for the time being of the ſaid United Company, ſign fied under their hands; nor ſhall, or will, at any time or times hereafter, during his beng employed in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, in any ſtation or capacity whatſoever, either by himſelf or any other perſon or perſons whomſoever, in truſt for him, or for his uſe, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compenſation, in money, effects, jewels, or otherwiſe howſoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their miniſters, ſervants, or agents, exceeding the value of four thouſand rupees, for any ſervice or ſervices performed, or to be performed, by the ſaid A. B. in India, or upon any other account or pretence whatſoever, without the like licence or conſent of the ſaid Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, ſignified as aforeſaid; nor any ſuch reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compenſation, exceeding the value of one thouſand rupees, and under the value of four thouſand rupees, without the licence or conſent of the Preſident and Council for the time being of the preſidency or ſettlement where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be employed; and that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will convey, aſſign, and make over, to the ſaid U ted Company, for their ſole and proper uſe and benefit, all and every ſuch gifts or g ants of land-, or rents or revenues iſſuing out of lands, or any ſuch territorial poſſeſſion, juriſdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatſoever; and alſo account for, and pay to the ſaid United Company, for their ſole and proper uſe and benefit, all and every ſuch gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compenſations whatſoever, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents, ſhall come to the hands, poſſeſſion, or power of the ſaid A. B. or any other perſon or perſons in truſt for him, or for his uſe as aforeſaid; provided always that nothing herein contained ſhall hinder or prevent, or be deem-d, taken, or conſtrued to hinder or prevent the ſaid A. B. from accepting or receiving a ſhare or proportion, in reſpect of his military poſt or ſtation, of any gift, gratuity, or donation, in money, or effects, which any Indian Prince, Sovereign, Subah, or Nabob, ſhall or may in time of extreme danger, neceſſity, or emergency, give or beſtow on any of the military officers or forces of the ſaid United Company, provided ſuch gift, gratuity, or donation, be with the privity and conſent of the Governor and Council of the preſidency or ſettlement where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be employed, and not otherwiſe; and provided alſo that the ſame be not obtained or exacted by compulſion, or by way of bargain or contract for any ſervice or ſervices performed or to be performed; provided alſo that no Governor or Preſident of any of the ſaid United Company's ſettlements in India ſhall, by virtue of his commiſſion from the ſaid United Company, be authorized or intitled to accept or receive any part, ſhare, or proportion, of any ſuch gift, gratuity, or donation, as is mentioned in the proviſo herein before contained. And this indenture further witneſſeth, and the ſaid A. B. doth hereby covenant, conſent, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall be diſmiſſed the ſaid United Company's military ſervice, by ſentence of court martial, or by a reſolution or order of the Company's Preſident and Council of ſuch ſettlement, where the ſaid A. B. ſhall ſerve or be, or if the ſaid A. B. ſhall otherwiſe legally quit the ſaid Company's military ſervice, that then, and in any or either of the ſaid caſes, it ſhall be lawful to and for the ſaid United Company's ſaid Preſident and Council, at any time after the expiration of ſix calendar months, next following ſuch diſmiſſion from, or quitting the ſaid Company's military ſervice as aforeſaid, to carry and tranſport the ſaid A. B. at the expence of the ſaid Company to Great Britain, in ſuch ſhip employed in the ſaid Company's ſervice, as the ſaid Preſident and Council ſhall for that purpoſe appoint. And in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall neglect, or refuſe to repair or go on board ſuch ſhip as aforeſaid, by the ſpace of ten days after notice ſhall be given him ſo to do, by order of the ſaid Preſident and Council; then, and in ſuch caſe, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Preſident and Council, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to cauſe the ſaid A. B. to be apprehended and detained, and to put him on board ſuch ſhip as aforeſaid, for the purpoſe of being carried and tranſported to Great Britain, ſo nevertheleſs, that no unneceſſary delay be ſought, nor any fit occaſion or opportunity loſt, in ſo detaining or putting on board the ſaid A. B. And further, in caſe of ſuch apprehending, putting on board, and tranſporting, the ſaid A. B. in manner aforeſaid, the ſaid A. B doth hereby covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that he the ſaid A. B. his executors or adminiſtrators, ſhall not nor will commence, ſue, or proſecute, the ſaid United Company, or their Court of Directors, or any of their Preſidents and Council, commanders, or officers of any ſuch ſhips, or any other perſon employed in any of the matters aforeſaid, in or by any action, ſuit, or other proſecution, civil or criminal, in reſpect of ſuch apprehending him the ſaid A. B. or of putting him on board and tranſporting him the ſaid A. B. to Great Britain, in manner aforeſaid: And in caſe any ſuch action, ſuit, or proſecution, ſhall be commenced, ſued, or proſecuted, for any of the matters aforeſaid, the ſaid A. B. doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid Company, that the general iſſue may be pleaded, and this preſent indenture, or any other ſpecial matter, may be given in evidence, by any of the defendants, in any ſuch ſuit, action, or proſecution, in bar, diſcharge, and defence thereof, any thing in theſe preſents contained to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding. In witneſs whereof, to one part of this indenture, the ſaid A. B. hath put his hand and ſeal; and to the other part thereof the ſaid United Company have cauſed their common ſeal to be affixed, the day and year abovewritten.

Sealed and delivered (being firſt duly ſtamped) in the preſence of

A. B. (L. S.)

Memorandum: Military officers do not give ſecurity, for performance of the above covenant.

I acknowledge to have read the within covenant before I executed the ſame.

Witneſs, A. B.

Military officers covenant, from May 1764 to July 1770.

This indenture made the day of in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and between A. B. of London, Eſquire, of the one part, and the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, of the other part: Whereas the Court of Directors for the affairs of the ſaid United Company have granted a commiſſion to the ſaid A. B. appointing him Captain of foot in their military forces in the Eaſt Indies: Now this indenture witneſſeth, and the ſaid A. B. in compliance with a reſolution of a general court of the ſaid United Company, and for and in conſideration of what he is, or ſhall be, entitled to receive from the ſaid Company, in reſpect of his ſaid ſervice, or in reſpect of any other military ſtation or employment in which the ſaid A. B. may hereafter be employed by the ſaid United Company, or their Court of Directors, doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree to and with the ſaid United Company, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall not, nor will at any time or times hereafter during his being employed in the ſaid Company's ſervice, in any ſtation or capacity whatſoever, either by himſelf or by any other perſon or perſons whomſoever, in truſt for him or for his uſe, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift or grant of lands, or rents or revenues iſſuing out of lands, or any territorial poſſeſſion, juriſdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatſoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their miniſters, ſervants, or agents, for any ſervice or ſervices, or upon any account or pretence whatſoever, without the licence or conſent of the Court of Directors for the time being of the ſaid United Company, ſignified under their hands; nor ſhall or will, at any time or times hereafter, during his being employed in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, in any ſtation or capacity whatſoever, either by himſelf or any other perſon or perſons whomſoever, in truſt for him or for his uſe, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compenſation, in money, effects, jewels, or otherwiſe howſoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their miniſters, ſervants, or agents, exceeding the value of four thouſand rupees for any ſervice or ſervices performed or to be performed by the ſaid A. B. in India, or upon any other account or pretence whatſoever, without the like licence or conſent of the ſaid Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, ſignified as aforeſaid; nor any ſuch reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compenſation, exceeding the value of one thouſand rupees, and under the value of four thouſand rupees, without the licence or conſent of the Preſident and Council for the time being of the preſidency or ſettlement where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be employed; and that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will convey, aſſign, and make over, to the ſaid united Company, for their ſole and proper uſe and benefit, all and every ſuch gifts or grants of lands, or rents or revenues, iſſuing out of lands, or any ſuch territorial poſſeſſion, juriſdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatſoever; and alſo account for and pay to the ſaid United Company, for their ſole and proper uſe and benefit, all and every ſuch gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compenſations whatſoever, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents, ſhall come to the hands, poſſeſſion, or power, of the ſaid A. B. or any other perſon or perſons in truſt for him, or for his uſe as aforeſaid; provided always that nothing herein contained ſhall hinder or prevent, or be deemed, taken, or conſtrued, to hinder or prevent, the ſaid A. B. from accepting or receiving a ſhare or proportion, in reſpect of his military poſt or ſtation, of any gift, gratuity, or donation, in money, or effects, which any Indian Prince, Sovereign, Subah, or Nabob, ſhall or may in time of extreme danger, neceſſity, or emergency, give or beſtow on any of the military officers or forces of the ſaid United Company, provided ſuch gift, gatuity, or donation be with the privity and conſent of the Governor and Council of the preſidency or ſettlement where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be employed, and not otherwiſe; and provided alſo, that the ſame be not obtained or exacted by compulſion, or by way of bargain or contract for any ſervice or ſervices performed or to be performed: Provided alſo, that no Governor or Preſident of any of the United Company's ſettlements in India ſhall, by virtue of his commiſſion from the ſaid United Company, be authorized, or intitled to accept or receive any part, ſhare, or proportion, of any ſuch gift, gratuity, or donation, as is mentioned in the proviſo herein before contained. In witneſs whereof, to one part of this indenture the ſaid A. B. hath put his hand and ſeal, and to the other part thereof the ſaid United Company have cauſed their common ſeal to be affixed, the day and year abovewritten.

A. B. (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being firſt duly ſtamped) in the preſence of

Memorandum: Military officers did not give ſecurity for the performance of the above covenant.

I acknowlege to have read the within covenant before I executed the ſame.

Witneſs, A. B.

Writers 2d covenant from May 1764 to the preſent time.

Civil. N° 1000. 1770.

This indenture made the day of in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy, between A. B. of London, writer, of the one part, and the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, of the other part: Whereas the ſaid A. B. is now employed in the ſervice of the ſaid United Company as one of their writers and covenant ſervants, at their chief ſettlement of Fort William and Bengal, in the Eaſt-Indies: Now this indenture witneſſeth, and the ſaid A. B. in compliance with a reſolution of a general court of the ſaid United Company, and for and in conſideration of what he is, or ſhall be, intitled to receive from the ſaid Company, in reſpect of his ſaid ſervice, or in reſpect of any other ſtation, capacity, or employment, in which the ſaid A. B. may hereafter be retained or employed by the ſaid United Company, or their Court of Directors, doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree to and with the ſaid United Company, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall not, nor will at any time or times hereafter during his being employed in the ſaid Company's ſervice, in any ſtation or capacity whatſoever, either by himſelf or by any other perſon or perſons whomſoever, in truſt for him, or for his uſe, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift or grant of lands, or rents or revenues iſſuing out of lands, or any territorial poſſeſſion, juriſdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatſoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their miniſters, ſervants, or agents, for any ſervice or ſervices, or upon any account or pretence whatſoever, without the licence or conſent of the Court of Directors for the time being, of the ſaid United Company, ſignified under their hands; nor ſhall or will, at any time or times hereafter, during his being employed in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, in any ſtation or capacity whatſoever, either by himſelf or any other perſon or perſons whomſoever in truſt for him, or for his uſe, directly or indirectly, accept, take, or receive, or agree to accept, take, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compenſation, in money, effects, jewels, or otherwiſe howſoever, from any of the Indian Princes, Sovereigns, Subahs, or Nabobs, or any of their miniſters, ſervants, or agents, exceeding the value of four thouſand rupees, for any ſervice or ſervices performed, or to be performed, by the ſaid A. B. in India, or upon any other account or pretence whatſoever, without the like licence or conſent of the ſaid Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, ſignified as aforeſaid; nor any ſuch reward, gratuity, allowance, donation, or compenſation, exceeding the value of one thouſand rupees, and under the value of four thouſand rupees, without the licence or conſent of the Preſident and Council for the time being, of the preſidency or ſettlement where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be employed; and that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will convey, aſſign, and make over, to the ſaid United Company, for their ſole and proper uſe and benefit, all and every ſuch gift or grants of lands, or rents or revenues iſſuing out of lands, or any ſuch territorial poſſeſſion, juriſdiction, dominion, power, or authority whatſoever; and alſo account for and pay to the ſaid United Company, for their ſole and proper uſe and benefit, all and every ſuch gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compenſations, whatſoever, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents, ſhall come to the hands, poſſeſſion, or power, of the ſaid A. B. or any other perſon or perſons in truſt for him, or for his uſe as aforeſaid. In witneſs whereof, to one part of theſe indentures the ſaid A. B. hath ſet his hand and ſeal, and to the other part thereof the ſaid United Company have cauſed their common ſeal to be put, the day and year above-written.

A. B. (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being
firſt duly ſtamped) in the
preſence of

I acknowledge to have read the within covenant, before I executed the ſame.

Witneſs, A. B.

Writers covenant from July 1770, to the preſent time.

Factors, 1770.

This indenture made the day of in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and and in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord by the Grace of God, of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth, between the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, of the one part, and A. B. of London, writer, of the other part. Whereas the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, have (upon the ſpecial requeſt and entreaty of the ſaid A. B. upon the conditions and agreements herein after contained, on the part of the ſaid A. B. to be performed) received and entertained him the ſaid A. B. into their ſervice, as their writer and covenant ſervant at their chief ſettlement of Fort William, in Bengal, in the Eaſt Indies, to ſerve them for the term of five years, and to be employed in all or any of the traffick or merchandizes, buſineſſes, and affairs, in any place or places whatſoever, between the cape of Good Hope, and the Straits of Magellan, as the ſaid Company, or their Court of Directors for the time being, or any thirteen

teen or more of them, or any by them authoriſed, ſhall appoint, at and for the wages or ſum of five pounds of lawful money of Great-Britain, by the year, to commence from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforeſaid. Now this indenture witneſſeth, That the ſaid A. B. for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, and their ſucceſſors, in manner and form following; (that is to ſay) That he, the ſaid A. B. from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforeſaid, for, and during, and unto the full end and expiration of five years, ſhall, and will, faithfully, honeſtly, diligently, and carefully, ſerve the ſaid Company at ſuch place and places, and in all and every ſuch affairs and buſineſs whatſoever of the ſaid Company, as the ſaid A. B. ſhall be employed in: And ſhall alſo, from time to time, and at all times, obſerve, keep, and fulfil, all and every the orders of the ſaid Company, and of the ſaid Court of Directors, made and to be made for the government of their factories and ſettlements, officers, agents, or ſervants abroad: And ſhall and will alſo obſerve, keep, and fulfil, all ſuch orders, inſtructions and directions, which he ſhall herewith, or hereafter receive under the ſeal of the ſaid Company, or from the ſaid Court of Directors of the ſaid Company, for the time being, or any thirteen or more of them, or from their Preſident and Council, at the reſpective ſettlement where the ſaid A. B. ſhall reſide or be employed, or from any perſons authorized thereunto by ſuch Directors; and ſhall and will, to the utmoſt of his power and ſkill, reſiſt and withſtand all and every ſuch perſon or perſons, as ſhall break, or endeavour to break, the ſaid orders, inſtructions, or directions, or any of them: And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he will not do, attempt, or practiſe, nor ſhall wittingly or willingly permit or ſuffer any other perſon or perſons whatſoever, to do, attempt, or practiſe, any matter or thing whatſoever, to the hindrance, hurt, prejudice, damage, or defrauding of the ſaid Company or their ſucceſſors, or of their ſervants, or any of them, or of the ſaid Company's goods, merchandizes, trade, or traffick, or any of them, or any part thereof; but ſhall, as much as in him lieth, prevent and defeat the ſame. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, give notice and intelligence, with all convenient ſpeed, unto the the ſaid Court of Directors for the time being, of all and every the deceits, wrongs, abuſes, breach of orders, inconveniencies, and hindrances, which he the ſaid A. B. ſhall know, underſtand, hear, or ſuſpect to be done, practiſed, offered, or intended againſt the ſaid Company, or their ſucceſſors, or their goods or trade, or any of them, or againſt any perſon or perſons by them, or by the ſaid Court of Directors, employed, or in their ſervice, in any place or places, together with the names of thoſe perſons by whom the ſame ſhall be ſo offered, practiſed, or intended. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, that he will not engage or employ the ſtock of the ſaid Company, or any part thereof, or make uſe of the credit of the ſaid Company, in any other kind, way, or manner, howſoever, than for the affairs of the ſaid Company, and as by the major part of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being, under their hands, or under the common ſeal of the ſaid Company, or by their ſaid Preſident and Council, ſhall be ordered and directed. And that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, at all times, keep and conceal the ſaid Company's ſecrets, and every matter and thing committed to him as ſuch by the ſaid Court of Directors, or their agents, factors, officers, and ſervants, or any of them. And alſo, That he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, during his ſaid employment, keep, or cauſe to be kept, a true and particular journal or day book, of all paſſages and proceedings relating to the affairs of the ſaid Company, and alſo books of accounts; in which journal, day-book, and books of accounts, he ſhall daily, duly, truly, and fully, enter, or cauſe to be entered, the accounts of all and every particular buying, ſelling, receipts, payments, barterings, and all other tranſactions and occurrences relating to his truſt, during the time he ſhall continue in the ſaid United Company's ſervice and employment. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that he will not place, or conſent to the placing, to the ſaid Company's account, nor otherwiſe charge the ſaid Company with any more or greater ſums than he ſhall really, and in good faith, pay for all or any goods, merchandizes, or effects, which he ſhall buy, or cauſe, procure, or conſent to be bought, for, or on account of the ſaid company. And that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will bring to the account of the ſaid company, in the books of the ſaid company, the full rates and prices for which he ſhall ſell, or cauſe to be ſold, any of the ſaid company's goods, merchandizes or effects: And further that he the ſaid A. B. will not directly or indirectly, take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compenſation, ſum or ſums of money whatſoever, from any perſon or perſons, of whom he the ſaid A. B. ſhall, by himſelf, or any agent for him, buy or barter any goods, merchandizes, treaſure, or effects, for, or upon account of the ſaid company. And further, that he will not take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compenſation, ſum or ſums of money whatſoever, from any perſon or perſons to whom the ſaid A. B. ſhall, by himſelf, or any agent for him, ſell or barter any goods, merchandizes, treaſure, or effects, of or belonging to, or for,

or upon account of, the ſaid company: And moreover, That he the ſaid A. B. his executors or adminiſtrators, ſhall produce and deliver the ſaid books, together with all waſte books, pocket-books, diaries, memorials, and other writings and papers whatſoever, wherein he the ſaid A. B. ſhall make, or cauſe to be made, any entries, or ſet down any matter or thing touching or concerning the ſaid company's affairs, or any of them, or any way relating thereunto (although the ſame may or ſhall be intermixed with his own, or others, concerns) unto the ſaid Court of Directors of the ſaid company for the time being, or to ſuch perſon or perſons as ſhall, by letter or order, under the hands of thirteen or more of the ſaid Court of Directors, or under the ſeal of the ſaid company, be authorized and appointed to demand and receive the ſame; and ſhall and will, if required, make oath to the truth of ſuch books, diaries, memorials, writings, and papers, and that the ſame contain the whole of his tranſactions, and that they have not been defaced, obliterated, or altered. And further, That he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, well and truly deliver and pay unto the ſaid United Company, or their ſucceſſors, all and every ſuch monies, goods, merchandizes, and things whatſoever, as by the foot of his account, or otherwiſe, ſhall be due from him, or remain in his hands and poſſeſſion, and for which he ought to be chargeable or anſwerable in any manner or wiſe. And alſo, That he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will (before he ſhall leave the ſaid company's factories or ſettlements) pay and diſcharge all and every ſuch ſum or ſums of money as he ſhall juſtly owe, or be indebted to the black merchants or natives of the country, where he the ſaid A. B. ſhall be, together with ſuch other ſums as he ſhall owe abroad to any other merchants or perſons not being ſubjects of his Majeſty the King of Great-Britain, or his ſucceſſors: And that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, from time to time, when and as often as he ſhall be thereunto required by the ſaid company, or their ſucceſſors, or by the preſident, agent, or chief, and council, of the place where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be, remove to any ſuch other factories, as ſuch preſident, agent, or chief, and council, ſhall ſo direct and require. And alſo, That he the ſaid A. B. ſhall, at all times, during the time of his ſervice aforeſaid, faithfully and diligently demean himſelf as a good honeſt and faithful ſervant towards the ſaid company, and their ſucceſſors, and thoſe by them authorized. And upon condition, that the ſaid A. B. ſhall in all things perform his covenants and agreements with the ſaid company herein contained, and to encourage him ſo to do, it is further covenanted and agreed by and between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, That it ſhall and may be lawful, to and for the ſaid A. B. and the ſaid company doth accordingly licenſe the ſaid A. B. during the ſaid five years, commencing as aforeſaid, freely to trade and traffick for his own account only, from port to port in India, or elſewhere within the limits aforeſaid, but not to go to or from any place without the ſame, without any lett, hindrance, or interruption, from them the ſaid company, their ſucceſſors, or aſſigns, ſo as the ſaid trade and traffick ſo to be carried on and driven in India, or elſewhere within the limits aforeſaid, or any part thereof, be ſubject to ſuch rules, regulations, and limitations, as the ſaid Company, or the Court of Directors for the time being of the ſaid company, have already directed, or ſhall from time to time hereafter direct and appoint, and be not to the hurt or prejudice of the ſaid company and their ſucceſſors, or of their trade or commerce, and ſo as whatever is ſo traded for by the ſaid A. B. by virtue of this agreement, be particularly entered in books of the ſaid company, to be kept for that purpoſe, in all the factories of the ſaid company reſpectively in the Eaſt-Indies, or elſewhere within the limits aforeſaid, where ſuch trade ſhall be driven: But in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall waſte or make uſe of the ſaid company's treaſure, or ſhall become indebted to the ſaid company, then, and in ſuch caſe, it is hereby further covenanted and agreed by and between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, That he the ſaid A. B. ſhall not be entitled to any of the payments, advantages, and benefits, hereby otherwiſe intended him; but contrariwiſe, for, and towards ſatisfaction for what ſhall be due from him to the ſaid company, and for and towards reparation of the damages done to the ſaid company, it ſhall and may be lawful, to and for any perſon or perſons thereunto authorized and appointed, by writing under the hands of thirteen, or more, of the Court of Directors of the ſaid company for the time being, or under the ſeal of the ſaid company, and to and for any preſident, agent, or chief, and council, of any place or factory of or belonging to the ſaid company, to ſeize, or cauſe the goods and chattels of him, the ſaid A. B. to be ſeized and detained until ſatisfaction is made. And foraſmuch as complains have been made to the ſaid United Company, that ſeveral of the ſaid Company's Preſidents and Chiefs of their factories, and ſeveral of ſuch perſons as are of their councils in their factories abroad, or ſome them, as alſo their factors, agents, and ſervants, have committed very heinous and grievous offences in ſuch factories of the ſaid Company, and elſewhere in the Eaſt Indies, and other places within the ſaid Company's limits of trade, by unjuſtly menacing, impriſoning, aſſaulting, abuſing, and evil-treating the natives and black merchants, and others, with whom the ſaid Company have had dealings or correſpondence, and by ſuch means, and other violences, abuſes, and injuries, have extorted and forced great ſums of money, and other valuable effects, from ſuch injured perſons, who, by reaſon of the great diſtance from this kingdom, and the wholeſome laws thereof, and by reaſon that the ſaid Company have not been able to obtain and render ſatisfaction for ſuch injuries and miſdemeanors, are, and have been remedileſs: Now it is hereby agreed, by and between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, and the ſaid A. B, doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that in caſe any ſum or ſums of money, goods, or chattles, whatſoever ſhall, at any time or times hereafter, be extorted, forced, and taken, by him the ſaid A. B. (either ſeparately, or jointly with others) from any perſon or perſons whatſoever, within the ſaid Company's limits of trade, by the means or uſe of impriſonments, aſſaults,

aſſaults, violences, menaces, or other force or compulſion whatſoever, then, and as often as any ſuch offence or offences ſhall be committed, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for every perſon or perſons injured thereby, to make and ſend over complaints and atteſtations thereof in writing to the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being, and that upon the receipt of ſuch complaints and atteſtations, it ſhall and may be lawful, to and for the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company, for the time being, to enquire into the truth of the ſaid complaints, by all ſuch ways and means as they ſhall think juſt and equitable, and thereupon to hear the matter of the ſaid complaint or complaints, and thereupon finally to judge and determine the ſame, and to award ſatisfaction and reparation to be made by the ſaid A. B. to the ſaid Company, for the benefit of ſuch injured perſons. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, well and truly to pay to the ſaid Company, at ſuch time or times as ſhall be limited by the ſaid Court of Directors (or the major part of them) for that purpoſe, all and every ſuch ſum and ſums of money as ſhall be ſo awarded by the ſaid Court of Directors for the time being, or the major part of them then aſſembled, to be paid as aforeſaid; but in truſt nevertheleſs, and to the intent, that the ſaid Company may and do render, and pay over, the monies received or recovered by them, to the parties injured or defrauded, which the ſaid Company accordingly hereby agree and covenant to do: And the ſaid A. B. doth furthermore for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, to pay and ſatisfy to the ſaid Company, for their own uſe and benefit, all ſuch damages as they ſhall have ſuſtained by reaſon or means of any ſuch offence or offences as aforeſaid. And foraſmuch as it frequently happens that the Preſident and Council, agent and council, chief and council, and ſeveral other ſubordinate officers of ſeveral of the ſaid Company's factories abroad, have, by mutual influences on each other, ſettled, ſtated, and adjuſted, amongſt themſelves, their own accounts with the ſaid Company, in order, as far as they could, to bar and preclude the ſaid Company from reviewing, altering, amending, correcting, or conteſting, the ſame: Now it is hereby further declared, that all and every ſuch account and accounts, ſo at any time ſtated, ballanced, ſigned, or adjuſted, by, between, or amongſt, ſuch Preſidents and Councils, or agents and councils, or chiefs and councils, or other ſubordinate officers, or any of them, and the ſaid A. B. are agreed to be, and ſhall at all times hereafter be taken and eſteemed to be open accounts, formed and prepared only for the inſpection, peruſal, and approbation or correction, of the ſaid Company, and ſhall not in any ſort or kind, or in any article thereof, bind or conclude the ſaid Company. And the ſaid A. B. doth for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that he the ſaid A. B. will not at any time, during his reſidence in the Eaſt Indies, or within the ſaid Company's limits, directly or indirectly, trade, correſpond, traffick, deal with or for, or be in any wiſe aiding, aſſiſting, or employed as agent, or factor, by, or for any foreign Company trading in or to the Eaſt Indies, or any perſon or perſons whatſoever, who do or ſhall, during the continuance of theſe preſents, traffick, adventure, or trade to, in, or from, the Eaſt Indies, or elſewhere, within the limits of the ſaid Company's trade, by, or under, or by virtue of, any foreign commiſſion, licence, or authority whatſoever, nor ſhall or will, by himſelf, or in conjunction with any perſon or perſons whatſoever, directly or indirectly carry on, or uſe, or be concerned in any ſort of trade, traffick, or merchandize, either from Europe to the Eaſt Indies, or to any place within the ſaid Company's limits, between the Cape of Good Hope, and the ſtraits of Magellan, or from the Eaſt Indies, or from any place within the ſaid Company's limits, to Europe, or to or from any place whatſoever, although not within the ſaid Company's limits of trade; ſave and except, for and on account of the ſaid Company; nor ſhall carry on, uſe, or be concerned in, any trade or traffick whatſoever, but ſuch as is expreſsly allowed by and according to the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents. And that he the ſaid A. B. his executors or adminiſtrators, ſhall and will pay, or cauſe to be paid, unto the ſaid Company, as and by way of ſtated damages, double the value of all and every the goods and merchandizes, traded for, bartered by the ſaid A. B. his agent or agents, contrary to the true meaning of theſe preſents: Provided nevertheleſs, that if the ſaid A. B. ſhall firſt voluntarily and freely make a diſcovery, unto the ſaid Company's Court of Directors, of any trade or traffick carried on by him or his agents, contrary to the true meaning of theſe preſents, and of all and every the perſons therein concerned, then, and in ſuch caſe, the ſaid Company do hereby agree to accept the ſingle value, inſtead of the double value of the ſaid goods and merchandizes, which ſhall be traded with, in, for, or bartered or trafficked for, contrary to the true meaning of theſe preſents as aforeſaid: And in order to a diſcovery of, and a ſatisfaction for, ſuch illicit trade as aforeſaid, it is hereby agreed, that it ſhall and may be lawful, to and for the ſaid United Company, and their ſucceſſors, to file any bill or bills of complaint or diſcovery, in his Majeſty's High Court of Chancery, or Court of Exchequer, againſt him the ſaid A. B. his executors and adminiſtrators, whereunto the ſaid A. B. doth hereby agree, that neither he, nor they, ſhall or will demur or plead in bar of the diſcovery or relief, ſought by ſuch bill or bills, that thereby he or they, is, are, may, or ſhall, become liable to any penalty or forfeiture, by force of any law or ſtatute, bond, covenant, or agreement, or otherwiſe howſoever, but ſhall make and put in a full and perfect anſwer and anſwers to all the parts thereof, and ſhall not, in ſuch anſwer and anſwers, inſiſt upon any penalties, forfeitures, law, or ſtatute, bond, covenant, or agreement, or allege any matter whatſoever, whereby to prevent, bar, or preclude, the ſaid Company, from the diſcovery or relief, ſought or to be ſought by ſuch bill or bills as aforeſaid; but then, and in ſuch caſe, the ſaid United Company do hereby conſent to wave and diſclaim all, and all manner

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of penalties and forfeitures, that ſhall or may, in any kind or degree whatſoever, accrue or incur to them, upon, or by reaſon of, any diſcovery or diſcloſure ariſing by the ſaid anſwer or anſwers of the ſaid A. B. his executors or adminiſtrators: And the ſaid United Company, for themſelves and their ſucceſſors, do agree to accept, and the ſaid A. B. doth, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, agree to account for, and pay, or cauſe to be paid to, or to the uſe of, the ſaid company, or their ſucceſſors, as, and for a full, ſtated, and adjuſted compenſation and ſatisfaction for the damages ſuſtained by the ſaid company, upon account of the ſaid illicit trade, the ſum of fifty pounds for every one hundred pounds value, of all and every the goods and merchandizes traded or trafficked with, or for, contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof, and alſo of the produce of the ſaid illicit trade. Provided always, and it is hereby expreſsly covenanted, declared, and agreed, between the parties to theſe preſents, and it is the true intent and meaning thereof, that in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall make default in any of the covenants herein before contained, or ſhall embezzle any of the ſaid company's money, goods, or effects, or be guilty of any breach of truſt towards the ſaid company, or ſhall be concerned in buying, bartering, ſelling, or diſpoſing of any artillery, ordnance, muſquets, fire arms, ammunition, or warlike ſtores, to or for the uſe of any Prince, Nabob, or country power in India, or of the natives there, without the expreſs licence of the ſaid company, or their Court of Directors for the time being, or a majority of them, or of the ſaid company's preſident and council, at the reſpective ſettlement, where ſuch buying, bartering, or ſelling ſhall be; or in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall, at any time during the continuance of theſe preſents, without the like licence and authority as aforeſaid, hold correſpondence with any Prince, Nabob, or country power in India, or any of their miniſters, or ſhall ſupply, lend to, or procure, for the uſe of any foreign company trading in, or to India, or any perſon or perſons trading under the licence or authority of ſuch foreign company, any money, at reſpondentia, or any other ſecurity, loan, or engagement whatſoever; that then, and in each and every of the ſaid caſes, it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid company, and their ſaid Court of Directors for the time being, or the majority of them, or the preſident and council at the reſpective ſettlement, where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be reſident or employed, and they are hereby reſpectively declared to have full power and authority for that purpoſe, to ſuſpend, or wholly diſmiſs, the ſaid A. B. from the ſaid company's ſervice and employment; the ſaid A. B. having firſt had notice given him of ſuch his offence or default, and a reaſonable time allowed him to make his defence againſt the ſame, and having been convicted thereof. And it is hereby further expreſsly covenanted and agreed, by and between the ſaid company, and the ſaid A. B. that in caſe of ſuch diſmiſſion as aforeſaid, or in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall, during the continuance of theſe preſents, be minded to quit or reſign the ſaid company's ſervice, and ſuch reſignation ſhall be accepted and agreed to, by the ſaid company or their Court of Directors, or their preſident and council at ſuch ſettlement, where the ſaid A. B. ſhall reſide or be employed, that then, and in either of the ſaid caſes of diſmiſſion from, or voluntary reſignation of, the ſaid ſervice, it ſhall not be lawful for the ſaid A. B. to enter into any new or freſh engagements or concerns whatſoever, in the way of trade or merchandize; but he ſhall wholly forbear and be prohibited therefrom; but nevertheleſs, the ſaid A. B. ſhall in any, or either of the ſaid caſes, be at liberty, and have full power and authority to ſell and diſpoſe of his merchandizes and effects, which he ſhall have on hand, or which ſhall be then fairly and truly belonging to him, and to collect and get in ſuch outſtanding debts as ſhall be then due and owing to him in trade, or otherwiſe. And for the more effectually carrying the ſaid laſt mentioned covenant and agreement into execution, it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents; and the ſaid A. B. doth hereby covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that in caſe of ſuch diſmiſſion from, or quitting and reſigning, the ſaid company's ſervice, and employment, he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, within one year after the ſame ſhall happen, or by the firſt paſſage that can be obtained after the expiration of the ſaid one year, tranſport himſelf, together with his family, to Great-Britain, in ſuch ſhip employed by the ſaid company, as ſhall be appointed for that purpoſe, by the ſaid company, or by their Court of Directors, or their preſident and council as aforeſaid; and ſhall not, nor will upon any account or pretence whatſoever, ſtay, or continue any longer in the Eaſt-Indies: And moreover, in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall make default in the ſaid laſt mentioned covenant, the ſaid A. B. doth hereby conſent and agree with the ſaid United Company, that from, and immediately after ſuch default, it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid company, or their Court of Directors, or their Preſident and Council at the ſaid ſettlement where the ſaid A. B. ſhall reſide or be, to cauſe the ſaid A. B. to be apprehended and detained, and to put him and his family on board any ſhip employed by the ſaid company, for the purpoſe of being tranſported to Great-Britain, ſo nevertheleſs that no unneceſſary delay be ſought, nor any fit occaſion or opportunity loſt in ſo doing. And further, in caſe of ſuch apprehending, putting on board, and tranſporting, the ſaid A. B. and his family, in manner aforeſaid; the ſaid A. B. doth hereby covenant, promiſe and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that he the ſaid A. B. his executors, or adminiſtrators, ſhall not, nor will commence, ſue, or proſecute the ſaid company, or their Court of Directors, or any of their preſidents and council, commanders or officers of any ſuch ſhip, or any other perſon employed in any of the matters aforeſaid, in, or by any action, ſuit, or other proſecution, civil or criminal, in reſpect to ſuch apprehending and detaining him the ſaid A. B. or of putting on board and tranſporting him the ſaid A. B. and his family, to Great-Britain, in manner aforeſaid; and in caſe any ſuch action, ſuit, or proſecution, ſhall be commenced, ſued, or proſecuted for any of the matters aforeſaid, the ſaid A. B. doth hereby covenant and agree to and with the ſaid company, that the general

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iſſue may be pleaded, and that this preſent indenture, or any other ſpecial matter, may be given in evidence by any of the defendants in any ſuch ſuit, action, or proſecution. Provided always and laſtly, it is hereby covenanted, concluded, and agreed, by and between the ſaid parties hereto, and it is their true intent and meaning, That if the ſaid A. B. ſhall continue in the ſaid company's ſervice after the expiration of the ſaid term of five years, that ſuch continuance ſhall be upon the ſame terms, conditions, and agreements, as are herein before made and agreed upon, for the ſaid term of five years, ſave and except, that if the ſaid A. B. ſhall riſe to any ſuperior place or office than what he is hereby employed in or appointed for, that then he the ſaid A. B. performing the covenants aforeſaid, ſhall have and receive ſuch wages as are uſually paid to officers in the like advanced ſtation, places, or employments. In witneſs whereof, the ſaid United Company have to one part of theſe indentures ſet their common ſeal; and the ſaid A. B. hath to the other part of the ſaid indenture ſet his hand and ſeal, the day and year firſt above-written.

A. B. (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being ſtamp'd
according to act of parliament)
in the preſence of Us,

I acknowledge to have read the within covenant before I executed the ſame.

Witneſs, A. B.

Writers covenant from 1756 to July 1770.
1000 factor's covenants. 1770.

This indenture made the Day of in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and and in the year of the reign of our ſovereign Lord by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, and ſo forth, between the United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, of the one part, and A. B. of London, writer, of the other part, Whereas the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, have (upon the ſpecial requeſt and entreaty of the ſaid A. B. and upon the conditions and agreements herein after contained, on the part of the ſaid A. B. to be performed) received and entertained him the ſaid A. B. into their ſervice, as their writer and covenant ſervant, at their chief ſettlement of Fort William in Bengal in the Eaſt Indies, to ſerve them for the term of five years, and to be employed in all or any of the traffick or merchandizes, buſineſſes, and affairs, in any place or places whatſoever, between the Cape of Good Hope, and the Straits of Magellan, as the ſaid Company, or their Court of Directors for the time being, or any thirteen, or more of them, or any by them authorized, ſhall appoint, at and for the wages or ſum of five pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, by the year, to commence from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforeſaid. Now this indenture witneſſeth, that the ſaid A. B. for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, and their ſucceſſors, in manner and form following, (that is to ſay) that he the ſaid A. B. from the time of his arrival at Fort William aforeſaid, for, and during, and unto the full end and expiration of five years, ſhall faithfully, honeſtly, diligently, and carefully, ſerve the ſaid Company at ſuch place and places, and in all and every ſuch affairs and buſineſs whatſoever of the ſaid Company, as the ſaid A. B. ſhall be employed in; and ſhall alſo from time to time, and at all times, obſerve, keep, and fulfil, all and every the orders of the ſaid Company, and of the ſaid Court of Directors, made and to be made, for the government of their factories and ſettlements, officers, agents, or ſervants abroad; and ſhall and will alſo obſerve, keep, and fulfil, all ſuch orders, inſtructions, and directions, which he ſhall herewith or hereafter receive under the ſeal of the ſaid Company, or from the ſaid Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being, or any thirteen or more of them, or from any perſons authorized thereunto by ſuch Directors; and ſhall and will, to the utmoſt of his power and ſkill, reſiſt and withſtand all and every ſuch perſon or perſons, as ſhall break, or endeavour to break, the ſaid orders, inſtructions, or directions, or any of them. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he will not do, attempt, or practiſe, nor ſhall wittingly or willingly permit or ſuffer any other perſon or perſons whatſoever, to do, attempt, or practiſe, any matter or thing whatſoever, to the hindrance, hurt, prejudice, damage, or defrauding, of the ſaid Company, or their ſucceſſors, or of their ſervants, or any of them, or of the ſaid Company's goods, merchandizes, trade, or traffick, or any of them, or any part thereof; but ſhall, as much as in him lies, prevent and defeat the ſame. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, give notice and intelligence, with all convenient ſpeed, unto the ſaid Court of Directors for the time being, of all and every the deceits, wrongs, abuſes, breach of orders, inconveniences, hindrances, which he the ſaid A. B. ſhall know, underſtand, hear, or ſuſpect to be done, practiſed, offered, or intended, againſt the ſaid Company, or their ſucceſſors, or their goods or trade, or any of them, or againſt any perſon or perſons by them or by the ſaid Court of Directors employed, or in their ſervice, in any place or places, together with the names of thoſe perſons by whom the ſame ſhall be ſo offered, practiſed or intended. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe,

miſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he will not engage or employ, either the ſtock of the ſaid Company, or any part thereof, or make uſe of the credit of the ſaid Company, in any kind, or other way and manner howſoever, than for the affairs of the ſaid Company, and as by the major part of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being, under their hands, or under the common ſeal of the ſaid Company, ſhall be ordered and directed. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, at all times, keep and conceal the ſaid Company's ſecrets, and every matter and thing committed to him as ſuch by the ſaid Court of Directors, or their agents, factors, officers, and ſervants, or any of them. And alſo, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, from time to time, and at all times from henceforth, during his ſaid employment, keep, or cauſe to be kept, a true and particular journal or day book, of all paſſages and proceedings relating to the affairs of the ſaid Company, and alſo books of accounts; in which journal, day book, and books of accounts, he ſhall daily, duly, truly, and fully, enter or cauſe to be entered, the accounts of all and every particular buying, ſelling, receipts, payments, barterings, and other tranſactions and occurrences relating to his truſt, during the time he ſhall continue in the ſaid United Company's ſervice and employment: And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that he will not place, or conſent to the placing to the ſaid Company's account, nor otherwiſe charge the ſaid Company with any more or greater ſums than he ſhall really, and in good faith, pay for all or any goods, merchandizes, or effects, which he ſhall buy, or cauſe, procure, or conſent to be bought, for, or on account of the ſaid Company. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he ſhall and will bring to the account of the ſaid Company, in the books of the ſaid Company, the full rates and prices for which he ſhall ſell, or cauſe to be ſold, any of the ſaid Company's goods, merchandizes, or effects. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, further covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, that he will not directly or indirectly, take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compenſation, ſum or ſums of money whatſoever, from any perſon or perſons, of whom he the ſaid A. B. ſhall, by himſelf, or any agent for him, buy or barter any goods, merchandizes, treaſure, or effects, for, or upon account of, the ſaid Company; and further, that he will not take, accept, or receive, or agree to take, accept, or receive, any gift, reward, gratuity, allowance, compenſation, ſum or ſums of money whatſoever, from any perſon or perſons to whom he the ſaid A. B. ſhall, directly or indirectly, by himſelf, or agent for him, ſell or barter any goods, merchandizes, treaſure, or effects, of or belonging to, or for, or upon account of, the ſaid Company. And the ſaid A. B. for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, doth covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid united Company, that he the ſaid A. B. his executors, or adminiſtrators, ſhall produce and deliver the ſaid books, together with all waſte books, pocket books, diaries, memorials, and other writings and papers whatſoever, wherein he the ſaid A. B. ſhall make, or cauſe to be made, any entries, or ſet down any matter or thing touching or concerning the ſaid company's affairs, or any of them, or any way relating thereunto (although the ſame may or ſhall be intermixed with his own, or others concerns) unto the ſaid Court of Directors, of the ſaid company for the time being, or to ſuch perſon or perſons, as ſhall by letter or order, under the hands of thirteen, or more, of the ſaid Court of Directors, or under the ſeal of the ſaid company, be authorized and appointed to demand and receive the ſame; and ſhall and will, if required, make oath to the truth of ſuch books, diaries, memorials, writings, and papers, and that the ſame contain the whole of his tranſactions, and that they have not been defaced, obliterated, or altered. And further, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will well and truly deliver and pay unto the ſaid United Company, or their ſucceſſors, all and every ſuch monies, goods, merchandizes, and things whatſoever, as by the foot of his account, or otherwiſe, ſhall be due from him, or remain in his hands and poſſeſſion, and for which he ought to be chargeable or anſwerable in any manner or wiſe: And alſo, that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will (before he ſhall leave the ſaid company's factories or ſettlements) pay and diſcharge all and every ſuch ſum or ſums of money, as he ſhall juſtly owe or be indebted to any of the black merchants or natives of the country where he the ſaid A. B. ſhall be, together with ſuch other ſums as he ſhall owe, abroad to any other merchants or perſons not being ſubjects of his Majeſty the King of Great-Britain or his ſucceſſors; and that he the ſaid A. B. ſhall and will, from time to time, when and as often as he ſhall be thereunto required by the ſaid Company, or their ſucceſſors, or by the preſident, agent, or chief, and council, of the place where the ſaid A. B. ſhall be, remove to any ſuch other factories, as ſuch preſident, agent, or chief, and council, ſhall ſo direct or require. And alſo, That he the ſaid A. B. ſhall, at all times, during the time of his ſervice aforeſaid, faithfully and diligently demean himſelf as a good, honeſt, and faithful ſervant towards the ſaid company, and their ſucceſſors, and thoſe by them authoriſed, and lovingly and peaceably towards his conſorts. And upon condition, that the ſaid A. B. ſhall in all things perform his covenants and agreements with the ſaid company, and to encourage him ſo to do, it is further covenanted and agreed, by and between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid A. B. and the ſaid company doth accordingly licenſe the ſaid A. B. during the ſaid five years commencing as aforeſaid, freely

to

to trade and traffick, for his own account only from port to port in India, or elſewhere, within the limits aforeſaid, but not to or from any place without the ſame, without any lett, hinderance or interruption, from them the ſaid company, their ſucceſſors or aſſigns, ſo as the ſaid trade and traffick, ſo to be carried to and driven in India or elſewhere, within the limits aforeſaid, or any part thereof, be ſubject to ſuch rules, regulations, and limitations, as the ſaid company, or the Court of Directors for the time being of the ſaid company, have already directed, or ſhall from time to time hereafter direct and appoint, and be not to the hurt or prejudice of the ſaid company and their ſucceſſors, or of their trade or commerce; and ſo as whatever is ſo traded for by the ſaid A. B. by virtue of this agreement, be particularly entered in books of the ſaid company, to be kept for that purpoſe in all the factories of the ſaid company reſpectively in the Eaſt-Indies, or elſewhere within the limits aforeſaid, where ſuch trade ſhall be driven: But in caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall waſte or make uſe of the ſaid company's treaſure, or ſhall become indebted to the ſaid company, or ſhall in any wiſe make default in performance of the covenants aforeſaid, then, and in ſuch caſe, it is hereby further covenanted and agreed, by and between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, That he the ſaid A. B. ſhall not be entitled to any payments, advantages, and benefits, hereby otherwiſe intended him; but contrariwiſe, for and towards ſatisfaction for what ſhall be due from him to the ſaid company, and for and towards reparation of the damages done to the ſaid company, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for any perſon or perſons thereunto authorized and appointed, by writing, under the hands of thirteen, or more, of the Court of Directors of the ſaid company for the time being, or under the ſeal of the ſaid company, and to and for any preſident, agent, or chief, and council, of any place or factory of or belonging to the ſaid company, to ſeize, or cauſe the goods and chattels of him the ſaid A. B. to be ſeized and detained, until ſatisfaction is made. And foraſmuch as grievous complaints have been made to the ſaid United Company, that ſeveral of the ſaid company's preſidents and chiefs of their factories, and ſeveral of ſuch perſons as are of their councils in their factories abroad, or ſome of them, as alſo their factors, agents, and ſervants, have committed very heinous and grievous offences in ſuch factories of the ſaid company, and elſewhere in the Eaſt-Indies, and other places within the ſaid company's limits of trade, by unjuſtly menacing, impriſoning, aſſaulting, abuſing, and evil treating, the natives and black merchants, and others with whom the ſaid company have had dealings or correſpondence; and by ſuch means, and other violences, abuſes, and injuries, have, as hath been alledged, extorted and forced great ſums of money, and other valuable effects, from ſuch injured perſons, who by reaſon of the great diſtance from this kingdom, and the wholeſome laws thereof, and by reaſon that the ſaid company have not been enabled to obtain and render ſatisfaction for ſuch injuries and miſdemeanors, are, and have been remedileſs: Now it is hereby agreed by and between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, and the ſaid A. B. doth hereby, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that in caſe any ſum or ſums of money, goods or chattels whatſoever, ſhall at any time or times hereafter, be extorted, forced, or taken, by him the ſaid A. B. (either ſeparately or jointly with others) from any perſon or perſons whatſoever, within the ſaid company's limits of trade, by the means or uſe of impriſonments, aſſaults, violences, menaces, or other force or compulſion whatſoever, then and as often as any ſuch offence or offences ſhall be committed, it ſhall and may be lawful, to and for every perſon or perſons injured thereby, to make and ſend over complaints and atteſtations thereof in writing, to the Court of Directors of the ſaid company for the time being, and that upon the receipt of ſuch complaints, and atteſtations, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Court of Directors of the ſaid company for the time being, to enquire into the truth of the ſaid complaints, by all ſuch ways and means as they ſhall think juſt and equitable, and thereupon to hear the matter of the ſaid complaint or complaints, and thereupon finally to judge and determine the ſame, and to award ſatisfaction and reparation to be made by the ſaid A. B. to the ſaid company, for the benefit of ſuch injured perſons. And the ſaid A. B. doth hereby for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, well and truly to pay to the ſaid Company, at ſuch time or times as ſhall be limited by the ſaid Court of Directors (or the major part of them) for that purpoſe, all and every ſuch ſum and ſums of money as ſhall be ſo awarded by the ſaid Court of Directors for the time being, or the major part of them then aſſembled, to be paid as aforeſaid: But in truſt nevertheleſs, and to the intent, that the ſaid Company may and do render, and pay over, the monies received or recovered by them, to the parties injured or defrauded, which the ſaid Company accordingly hereby agree and covenant to do: And the ſaid A. B. doth furthermore, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, to pay and ſatisfy to the ſaid Company, for their own uſe and benefit, all ſuch damages as they ſhall have ſuſtained by reaſon or means of any ſuch offence or offences as aforeſaid, and foraſmuch as it frequently happens, that the Preſident and Council, agent and council, chief and council, and ſeveral other ſubordinate officers of ſeveral of the ſaid Company's factories abroad, have, by mutual influences on each other, ſettled, ſtated, and adjuſted amongſt themſelves, their own accounts with the ſaid Company, in order, as far as they could, to bar and preclude the ſaid Company from reviewing, altering, amending, correcting, or conteſting, the ſame: Now it is hereby further declared, that all and every ſuch account and accounts, ſo at any time heretofore ſtated, ballanced, ſigned, or adjuſted, as aforeſaid, were ever deſigned by the ſaid Company to be, and the ſame, and all and every ſuch account and accounts, ſo hereafter to be ſtated, ballanced, ſigned, or adjuſted, by, between, of amongſt ſuch Preſidents and Councils, or agents and councils, or chiefs

chiefs and councils, or other ſubordinate officers, or any of them, are hereby agreed to be, and ſhall at all times hereafter be taken and eſteemed to be, open accounts, formed and prepared only for the inſpection, peruſal, and approbation, or correction, of the ſaid Company, and ſhall not in any ſort or kind, or in any article thereof, bind or conclude the ſaid Company. And the ſaid A. B. doth, for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtators, covenant and agree, to and with the ſaid United Company, that he the ſaid A. B. will not at any time, during his reſidence in the Eaſt Indies, or within the ſaid Company's limits, directly or indirectly, by himſelf, or in conjunction with any perſon or perſons whatſoever, carry or uſe, or be concerned in any ſort of trade, traffick, or merchandize, either from Europe to the Eaſt Indies, or to any place within the ſaid Company's limits, between the Cape of Good Hope, and the Straits of Magellan, or from the Eaſt Indies, or from any place within the ſaid Company's limits, to Europe, or to or from any place whatſoever, although not within the ſaid Company's limits of trade, ſave and except, for, and on account of, the ſaid Company, nor ſhall carry on, uſe, or be concerned in, any trade or traffick whatſoever, but ſuch as is expreſsly allowed by and according to the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents. And the ſaid A. B. for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, that he the ſaid A. B. his executors or adminiſtrators, ſhall, and will pay, or cauſe to be paid, unto the ſaid Company, as and by way of ſtated damages, double the value of all and every the goods and merchandizes, traded for, bartered, or trafficked with, by the ſaid A. B. his agent or agents, contrary to the true meaning of theſe preſents, and moreover, ſhall forfeit and loſe all and every the benefits and advantages which the ſaid A. B. his executors, adminiſtrators, or aſſigns, would otherwiſe be entitled unto, from the ſaid Company, and ſhall alſo from thenceforth ceaſe to be the ſaid Company's ſervant or agent: Provided nevertheleſs, that if the ſaid A. B. ſhall firſt voluntarily and freely make a diſcovery, unto the ſaid Company's Court of Directors, of any trade, or traffick, carried on by him or his agents, contrary to the true meaning of theſe preſents, and of all and every the perſons therein concerned, then and in ſuch caſe the ſaid Company do hereby agree to accept the ſingle value, inſtead of the double value of the ſaid goods and merchandizes, which ſhall be traded with, in, for, or bartered or trafficked for, contrary to the true meaning of theſe preſents, as afore aid: And in order to a diſcovery of, and a ſatisfaction for, ſuch illicit trade as aforeſaid, it is hereby agreed, that it ſhall and may be lawful, to and for the ſaid United Company, and their ſucceſſors, to file any bill or bills of complaint or diſcovery, in his Majeſty's high court of Chancery or court of Exchequer, againſt him the ſaid A. B. his executors and adminiſtrators, whereunto the ſaid A. B. doth hereby agree, that neither he, nor they, ſhall or will demur or plead in bar of the diſcovery or relief, ſought by ſuch bill or bills, that thereby he or they, is, are, may, or ſhall become liable to any penalty or forfeiture, by force of any law or ſtatute, bond, covenant, or agreement, or otherwiſe howſoever, but ſhall make and put in a full and perfect anſwer and anſwers to all the parts thereof, and ſhall not, in ſuch anſwer and anſwers, inſiſt upon any penalty, forfeiture, law, or ſtatute, bond, covenant, or agreement, or alledge any matter whatſoever, whereby to prevent, bar, or preclude the ſaid Company, from the diſcovery or relief, ſought, or to be ſought, by ſuch bill or bills as aforeſaid; but then, and in ſuch caſe, the ſaid United Company do hereby conſent to wave and diſclaim all and all manner of penalties and forfeitures, that ſhall or may, in any kind or degree whatſoever, accrue or incur to them, upon, or by reaſon of, any diſcovery or diſcloſure ariſing from the ſaid anſwer or anſwers, of the ſaid A. B. his executors or adminiſtrators; and the ſaid United Company, for themſelves and their ſucceſſors, do agree to accept, and the ſaid A. B. doth for himſelf, his heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, agree to account for, and pay or cauſe to be paid to, or to the uſe of, the ſaid Company, or their ſucceſſors, as and for a full, ſtated, and adjuſted compenſation and ſatisfaction for the damages ſuſtained by the ſaid Company, upon account of the ſaid illicit trade, the ſum of fifty pounds for every one hundred pounds value, and all and every the goods and merchandizes traded or trafficked with, or for, contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof, and alſo of the produce of the ſaid illicit trade. Provided always and laſtly, it is hereby covenanted, concluded, and agreed, by and between the ſaid parties hereto, and it is their true intent and meaning, that if the ſaid A. B. ſhall continue in the ſaid Company's ſervice after the expiration of the ſaid term of five years, that ſuch continuance ſhall be upon the ſame terms, conditions, and agreements, as are herein before made and agreed upon, for the ſaid term of five years, ſave and except, that if the ſaid A. B. ſhall riſe to any ſuperior place or office than what he is hereby employed in or appointed for, that then he the ſaid A. B. performing the covenants aforeſaid, ſhall have and receive ſuch wages as are uſually paid to officers in the like advanced ſtations, places, or employments. In witneſs whereof, the ſaid United Company have to one part of theſe indentures ſet their common ſeal; and the ſaid A. B. hath to the other part of the ſaid indentures ſet his hand and ſeal, the day and year firſt above written.

A. B. (L. S.)

Sealed and delivered (being ſtamp'd
according to act of parliament)
in the preſence of us

I do acknowlege to have read the within covenant before I executed the ſame.
Witneſs, A. B.

Amount

Amount of the ſecurities taken from the reſpective ranks of the Eaſt India Company's Civil ſervants.

A Governor	£. 10,000
Counſellor	4,000
Senior merchant	3,000
Junior merchant	2,000
Factor	1,000
Writer	500

Mem°. military officers do not give ſecurity for the performance of their covenants.

Copies of the ſeparate commiſſions of commander in chief of the military forces of the Eaſt India Company, at their different preſidencies, and of ſuch commiſſion of commander in chief as may have comprehended all their forces in India.

The United Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies:
To Major General Stringer Lawrence, ſend greeting.

We, the ſaid united Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in you Major General Stringer Lawrence, do by theſe preſents conſtitute and appoint you to be commander in chief of all our military forces in the Eaſt Indies, under our reſpective preſidencies; that is to ſay, our preſidency of Fort St George, on the coaſt of Choromandel, and the ſeveral ſettlements and places ſubordinate to the ſaid preſidency, whenever and as often as you ſhall be preſent and reſide at the ſaid preſidency, ſettlements, or places, and during ſuch time or times only; our preſidency of Fort William in Bengal, and the ſeveral ſettlements and places ſubordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you ſhall be preſent and reſide at the ſaid preſidency, ſettlements, or places, and during ſuch time or times only; our preſidency at Bombay, and the ſeveral ſettlements and places ſubordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you ſhall be preſent and reſide at the ſaid preſidency, ſettlements, or places, and during ſuch time or times only; our preſidency of Fort Marlborough, and the ſeveral ſettlements and places ſubordinate thereto, whenever and as often as you ſhall be preſent, or reſide at the ſaid preſidency, ſettlements, or places, and during ſuch time or times only. And you Major General Stringer Lawrence are, to the utmoſt of your ſkill and power, to do and perform all ſuch offices and ſervices as appertain to the poſt of commander in chief of all our military forces in the Eaſt Indies as aforeſaid, ſubject however to all ſuch rules, orders, and inſtructions, as you ſhall at any time receive from the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, in writing, or under the hands of thirteen or more of them, or from the ſaid Company's Preſidents and Councils of Fort Saint George, Fort William, Bombay, or Fort Marlborough, reſpectively, whenever you ſhall be preſent at ſuch reſpective preſidency, or any of the ſettlements or places ſubordinate thereto, according to the rules and diſcipline of war, in purſuance of the truſt we hereby repoſe in you: And we do hereby ſtrictly require, charge, and command, all commiſſion officers, non commiſſion officers, ſoldiers, and others, belonging to our military forces at the ſeveral places before mentioned, to yield you, as commander in chief, during your reſidence at ſuch places as aforeſaid, due obedience accordingly. In witneſs, &c.

Dated the 11th March 1761.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.
To Joſeph Smith, Eſquire, Greeting.

We, the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in your courage, and experience in military affairs, do, by theſe preſents, conſtitute and appoint you, to be a Brigadier General in our ſervice, and do give and grant you full power and authority, to take your rank as Brigadier General.

You are therefore to take upon you the ſaid charge and command of Brigadier General as aforeſaid, and carefully and diligently to diſcharge the ſaid truſt of Brigadier General, by doing all things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command all our officers and ſoldiers, to obey you as Brigadier General. And you are to obſerve and follow all ſuch orders and directions as you ſhall from time to time receive from us, our Governor and Council of Fort Saint George, or any other your ſuperior officer, according to the rules and diſcipline of war, in purſuance of the truſt hereby repoſed in you; or failing therein, our ſaid Governor and Council are empowered by us to vacate and annul theſe preſents: Given under our common ſeal, this third day of November, in the ninth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty, our Sovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and ſo forth; and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty eight.

By order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

P. Michell, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.
To Major General Eyre Coote, Greeting.

We, the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in you Major General Eyre Coote, do by theſe preſents conſtitute and appoint you to be commander in chief of all our

military

military forces in the Eaſt Indies, and you are to the utmoſt of your ſkill and power, to do and perform all ſuch offices and ſervices as appertain to the poſt of commander in chief of all our military forces in the Eaſt Indies as aforeſaid, ſubject however to all ſuch rules, orders, and inſtructions, as you ſhall at any time receive from the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, in writing or under the hands of thirteen or more of them, or from the commiſſioners appointed to ſuperintend their affairs in India, or from the ſaid Company's Preſidents and Councils of Fort Saint George, Fort William, Bombay, or Fort Marlborough, reſpectively, whenever you ſhall be preſent at ſuch reſpective preſidency, or any of the ſettlements or places ſubordinate thereto, according to the rules and diſcipline of war, in purſuance of the truſt we hereby repoſe in you: And we do hereby ſtrictly require, charge, and command, all commiſſion officers, non commiſſion officers, ſoldiers, and others belonging to our military forces, at the ſeveral places before mentioned, to yield you as their commander in chief, during your reſidence at ſuch places as aforeſaid, due obedience accordingly. In witneſs whereof, the ſaid United Company have cauſed their common ſeal to be affixed in London, this 22d day of December, in the tenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith; and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-nine.

(L. S.)

By order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Peter Michell, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies.
To Eyre Coote, Eſquire, Lieutenant Colonel in his Majeſty's ſervice, and Commandant of the Eighty-fourth regiment of foot, greeting.

We, the ſaid United Company, do by theſe preſents conſtitute and appoint you Eyre Coote, Eſquire, to be commander in chief of all our military forces, at our preſidency of Fort William in Bengal, and the ſeveral places and ſettlements ſubordinate thereto; you are therefore to the utmoſt of your ſkill and power, to do and perform all ſuch offices and ſervices, as appertain to the poſt of commander in chief of all our military forces in Bengal, as aforeſaid, ſubject however to all ſuch rules, orders, and inſtructions, which you ſhall at any time receive from the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies, for the time being, or from our governor and council of Fort William aforeſaid, for the time being: And we do hereby ſtrictly require, charge, and command, all commiſſion officers, non-commiſſion officers, ſoldiers, and others, belonging to our military forces in Bengal aforeſaid, to yield you, as their commander in chief as aforeſaid, due obedience accordingly. In witneſs whereof, we have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, the 14th day of March, in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-nine, and in the thirty-ſecond year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies.
To Sir Robert Barker, Knight, greeting.

We, the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in your courage and experience in military affairs, do by theſe preſents conſtitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our ſervice, and do give and grant you full power and authority to take your rank as Brigadier General; you are therefore to take upon you the ſaid charge and command of Brigadier General as aforeſaid, and carefully and diligently to diſcharge the ſaid truſt of Brigadier General by doing all things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command all our officers and ſoldiers to obey you as Brigadier General; and you are to obſerve and follow all ſuch orders and directions, as you ſhall from time to time receive from us, our Governor and Council of Fort William, or any other your ſuperior officer, according to the rules and diſcipline of war, in purſuance of the truſt hereby repoſed in you; or failing therein, our ſaid Governor and Council are impowered by us to vacate and annul theſe preſents. Given under our common ſeal this 23d day of March, in the Tenth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty, our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth; and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy.

L. S.

By Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

P. Michell, Secretary.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies,
To David Wedderburn, Eſquire, greeting.

We, the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in your courage and experience in military affairs, do by theſe preſents conſtitute and appoint you to be a Brigadier General in our ſervice, and do give and grant you full power and authority to take your rank as Brigadier General; you are therefore to take upon you the ſaid charge and command of Brigadier General as aforeſaid, and carefully and diligently to diſcharge the ſaid truſt of Brigadier General, by doing all things thereunto belonging: And we do hereby command all our officers and ſoldiers to obey you as Brigadier General; and you are to obſerve and follow all ſuch orders and directions as you ſhall from time to time receive from us, our Governor and Council of Bombay, or any other your ſuperior officer, according to the rules and diſcipline of war, in purſuance of the truſt hereby repoſed in you; or failing therein, our ſaid Governor and Council are impowered by us, to vacate and annul theſe preſents. Given under our common ſeal this Twenty-eighth day of March, in the Tenth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty, our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth; and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy.

(L. S.)

By Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

P. Michell, Secretary.

Copies of the commiſſions from the Eaſt-India Company, appointing a Preſident or Governor at each of their reſpective preſidencies, and the Council, iſſued by the ſaid Company ſince the year 1756.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies.
To all, to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting.

Know ye, That the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Robert Palk, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid Robert Palk, to be Preſident and Governor of and for all our affairs on the coaſt of Choromandel and Orixa, and of the Chingee and Moratta countries; and alſo to be our Commander in chief of our Fort Saint George, and Town of Madraſpatnam, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and ſingular the forts, factories, and ſettlements, territories, countries, and juriſdictions thereof, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be employed, for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company, in the ſaid forts, towns, and places; and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame, during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being: And to the end that the ſaid Robert Palk may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the ſaid Company; we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain Major General Stringer Lawrence, to be, and continue, ſecond of our Council of Fort Saint George, and not at any time to riſe to a ſuperior rank therein, Charles Bourchier, Eſq; to be third, Brigadier General John Caillaud, to be fourth, of our ſaid Council, and not to riſe at any time to a ſuperior rank, than third of the ſaid Council; and that his ſaid ſucceſſion as third do take place only on the death or abſence of the ſaid Major General Stringer Lawrence; Mr. Dawſonne Drake, fifth; Mr. John Pybus, ſixth; Mr. Richard Fairfield, ſeventh; Mr. Samuel Ardley, eighth; Mr. Charles Turner, ninth; Mr. John Smith, tenth; Mr. John Lewin Smith, eleventh; Mr. John Call, twelfth; and Mr. George Stratton, thirteenth and laſt, of our ſaid Council of Fort Saint George, for governing and managing all the ſaid company's affairs, upon the coaſt of Choromandel, Orixa, Chingee, and Moratta countries, and governing the ſaid Fort Saint George, and city of Madraſpatnam, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements, within any of the ſaid territories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident and Governor, Robert Palk, and to our Council aforenamed, or the major part of them (the whole Council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority from time to time to rule and govern all and every our factors, or ſervants, under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Saint George, and city of Madraſpatnam, and elſewhere, within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths, as occaſion ſhall require; and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities, as the ſaid Preſident and Governor, and his Council, in their ſeveral and reſpective places, where the ſaid United Company have or ſhall have factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do according to ſuch inſtructions and directions, as he the ſaid Robert Palk, our Preſident and Governor, and Council, aforeſaid, ſhall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being: And we, the ſaid United Company, do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Saint George, and city of Madraſpatnam, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obe-

obedience, unto the ſaid Robert Palk, our Preſident and Governor, and his Council accordingly. And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid Robert Palk, our preſidency ſhould be provided for the defence and government thereof; we do therefore, by theſe preſents, ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe, the ſaid Charles Bourchier ſhall immediately be, and ſucceed in the place and charge of, Preſident and Governor of Fort Saint George aforeſaid; and in caſe of his death or removal, the next civil ſervant in degree of Council below the ſaid Charles Bourchier and Brigadier General John Caillaud, to ſucceed in the ſaid preſidency and government, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample power, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid Robert Palk, until our further pleaſure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former commiſſion or commiſſions, given or granted by us; whereby any other perſon or perſons was and were conſtituted and ordained Preſident and Governor, and any other perſons therein named were conſtituted and ordained to be of the council of Fort Saint George, aforeſaid: In witneſs whereof, we, the ſaid United Company, have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, the fourth day of January, in the Fifth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the Third, by the grace of God, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Fort Saint George, dated the 4th January, 1765.

Having thought proper to make out a commiſſion under the ſeal of the Company, whereby the Governor and Council for all the Company's affairs at the preſidency of Fort Saint George, named in our letters of the 31ſt December, 1760, and 13th March following, are confirmed, and others appointed, as mentioned in the ſaid commiſſion:—We ſend the ſame by the ſhip Albion, and an atteſted copy thereof by the Royal Captain.

By the ſaid commiſſion, the under-named perſons are confirmed in, and appointed to, the following ſtations in the Company's ſervice at our preſidency of Fort Saint George; viz.

Robert Palk, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor.

Major General Stringer Lawrence to be ſecond in council, and not at any time to riſe to a ſuperior rank therein.

Charles Bourchier, Eſquire, to be third in council, and to ſucceed to the government in caſe of a vacancy therein by the deceaſe or otherwiſe of Mr. Palk.

Brigadier General John Caillaud, to be fourth in council, and not to riſe at any time to a ſuperior rank therein than third; and his ſaid ſucceſſion as third to take place only in caſe of the death or abſence of General Lawrence.

Mr. Dawſonne Drake,	Fifth in Council.
Mr. John Pybus,	Sixth.
Mr. Richard Fairfield,	Seventh.
Mr. Samuel Ardley,	Eighth.
Mr. Charles Turner,	Ninth.
Mr. John Smith,	Tenth.
Mr. John Lewin Smith,	Eleventh.
Mr. John Call,	Twelfth.
Mr. George Stratton,	Thirteenth.

Major General Lawrence and Brigadier General Caillaud are to be of council only as deſcribed in the before-mentioned commiſſion and the preceding paragraph; it being our meaning and directions, that agreeable to our former orders, neither of thoſe gentlemen ſhould ſucceed to the government, as that poſt is always to be filled by one of our civil ſervants; and conſequently, in caſe of a vacancy therein, by the death or otherwiſe, of Meſſrs. Palk and Bourchier, the next civil ſervant in the Council below the laſt named gentleman, and General Caillaud, is to ſucceed thereto, until our further pleaſure is ſignified.

In caſe of the death or coming away of General Lawrence and General Caillaud, you will obſerve by our letter of the 21ſt November laſt, no other military officer or officers are to have a ſeat or voice at the Board without our expreſs leave; which directions are to be ſtrictly obſerved.

The United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies: To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting: know ye, that the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Charles Bourchier, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid Charles Bourchier, to be Preſident and Governor of and for all our affairs on the coaſt of Choromandel and Orixa, and of the Chingee and Moratta countries; and alſo to be our commander in chief of our Fort Saint George and town of Madraſpatnam, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and ſingular, the forts, factories, ſettlements, territories, countries, and juriſdictions thereof; and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company in the ſaid forts, towns,

and

and places, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being: And to the end that the ſaid Charles Bourchier may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the ſaid Company, we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain Joſias du Pré, Eſquire, to be ſecond of our Council of Fort Saint George, next after our Preſident Charles Bourchier, Mr. John Call to be third of our ſaid Council, Mr. Dawſonne Drake to be fourth, and not to riſe to a ſuperior rank therein, Mr. Alexander Wynch to be fifth, Mr. John Andrews to be ſixth, Mr. John Pybus to be Seventh, Mr. Samuel Ardley to be eighth, Mr. John Smith to be ninth, Mr. John Lewin Smith to be tenth, Mr. George Stratton to be eleventh, Mr. George Dawſon to be twelfth, Mr. James Bourchier to be thirteenth, Mr. Henry Brooke to be fourteenth, and Mr. George Mackay to be fifteenth, and laſt, of our ſaid Council of Fort Saint George, and not at any time to riſe to an higher rank therein, for governing and managing all the ſaid Company's affairs upon the coaſt of Choromandel, Orixa, Chingee, and Moratta countries, and governing the ſaid Fort Saint George and city of Madraſpatnam, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements within any of the ſaid factories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident and Governor, Charles Bourchier, and to our Council aforenamed, or the major part of them (the whole Council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and ſervants under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Saint George and city of Madraſpatnam and elſewhere, within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths as occaſion ſhall require, and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities as the ſaid Preſident and Governor and his Council, in their ſeveral and reſpective places, where the ſaid United Company have, or ſhall have factories, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to ſuch inſtructions and directions as he the ſaid Charles Bourchier our Preſident and Governor and Council aforeſaid, ſhall from time to time receive, under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being: And we the ſaid united Company do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Saint George, and city of Madraſpatnam, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto the ſaid Charles Bourchier, our Preſident and Governor, and his Council accordingly: And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid Charles Bourchier, our preſidency ſhou'd be provided for the defence and government thereof; we do therefore by theſe preſents ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe, the ſaid Joſias Du Pré ſhall immediately be, and ſucceed in the place and charge of Preſident and Governor of Fort Saint George aforeſaid; and in caſe of his death or removal, the next civil ſervant in degree of Council below the ſaid Joſias Du Pré do ſucceed in the ſaid preſidency and government, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample power, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid Charles Bourchier, until our further pleaſure be known therein; and we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former commiſſion or commiſſions, given and granted by us, whereby any other perſon or perſons was and were conſtituted and ordained Preſident and Governor, and any other perſons therein named were conſtituted and ordained to be of the Council at Fort Saint George aforeſaid. In witneſs whereof, we the ſaid United Company have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, the twelfth day of January, in the eighth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty eight.

(L. S.)

Signed by order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Rob^t. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Fort Saint George, dated the 12th of January 1768.

By the ſhip Queen we tranſmit you a commiſſion, under the ſeal of the Company, appointing the Preſident and Governor, and the reſt of the Council for the preſidency of Fort Saint George, in the order and in the manner before deſcribed and directed; and you will receive an atteſted copy thereof by the ſhip Dutton.

The United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies: To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting. Know ye, that the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Joſias Du Pré, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid Joſias Du Pré upon and from the laſt day of January which ſhall be in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy, to be Preſident and Governor of, and for, all our affairs on the coaſts of Choromandel and Orixa, and of the Chingee and Moratta countries; and alſo to be our commander in chief of our Fort Saint George and town of Madraſpatnam, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and ſingular the forts, factories, and ſettlements, territories, countries, and juriſdictions thereof, and of all the

forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company, in the ſaid forts, towns, and places; and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company, for the time being: And to the end that he the ſaid Joſias Du Pré may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the ſaid Company; we do, by theſe preſents, conſtitute and ordain Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, to be ſecond of our Council of Fort Saint George, next after our ſaid Preſident Joſias Du Pré, Mr. John Call to be third of our ſaid Council, Mr. Alexander Wynch to be fourth, Mr. John Andrews to be fifth, Mr. Samuel Ardley to be ſixth, Mr. John Smith to be ſeventh, Mr. John Lewin Smith to be eighth, Mr. George Stratton to be ninth, Mr. George Dawſon to be tenth, Mr. James Bourchier to be eleventh, Mr. Henry Brooke to be twelfth, Mr. Richard Brickenden to be thirteenth, Mr. John Whitehill to be fourteenth, Mr. George Dolben to be fifteenth, and Mr. George Mackay to be ſixteenth, and laſt, of our ſaid Council of Fort Saint George, and not at any time to riſe to a higher rank therein, for governing and managing all the ſaid Company's affairs upon the coaſts of Choromandel and Orixa, and the Chingee and Moratta countries, and governing the ſaid Fort Saint George and city of Madraſpatnam, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements, within any of the ſaid territories: And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident and Governor Joſias du Pré, and to our Council afore-named, or the major part of them (the whole Council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and ſervants under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Saint George and city of Madraſpatnam, and elſewhere, within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths as occaſion ſhall require, and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities, as the ſaid Preſident and Governor, and his Council in their ſeveral and reſpective places where the ſaid United Company have, or ſhall have, factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to ſuch inſtructions and directions, as he the ſaid Joſias du Pré, our Preſident and Governor, and Council aforeſaid, ſhall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being: And we the ſaid United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Saint George and city of Madraſpatnam, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto the ſaid Joſias Du Pré, our Preſident and Governor, and his Council accordingly: And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid Joſias Du Pré, our preſidency ſhould be provided for the defence and government thereof; we do therefore by theſe preſents ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe the ſaid Warren Haſtings ſhall immediately be and ſucceed in the place and charge of Preſident and Governor of Fort Saint George aforeſaid; and in caſe of his death or removal, the next civil ſervant in degree of Council below the ſaid Warren Haſtings do ſucceed in the ſaid preſidency and government in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample power, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid Joſias du Pré, until our further pleaſure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former commiſſion or commiſſions, given and granted by us, whereby any other perſon or perſons was and were conſtituted and ordained Preſident and Governor, and any other perſons therein named were conſtituted and ordained to be of the Council at Fort Saint George aforeſaid. In witneſs whereof, we the ſaid United Company have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, the ſeventeenth day of March, in the Ninth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the Third, by the grace of God of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-nine.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

P. Michell, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's letter to Fort Saint George, dated the 17th March 1769.

Mr. Bourchier being directed to reſign the government on the 31ſt January 1770, and Joſias Du Pré, Eſquire, being appointed by the 16th paragraph of our letter of the 12th January 1768, to ſucceed as Preſident and Governor of Fort Saint George, he is on the ſaid 31ſt day of January 1770 to take upon himſelf the adminiſtration thereof accordingly; and we expect, from his zeal and abilities in the diſcharge of the duties of that important ſtation, he will merit this ſignal mark of our favour.

And we further order and direct, that our Council at Fort Saint George do conſiſt of the following gentlemen, viz.

Joſias Du Pré, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor.

Mr. Warren Haſtings—To be ſecond in Council, and ſucceed to the government, in caſe of a vacancy by the deceaſe or otherwiſe of Mr. Du Pré.

Mr.

Mr. John Call,	Third.
Mr. Alexander Wynch,	Fourth.
Mr. John Andrews,	Fifth.
Mr. Samuel Ardley,	Sixth.
Mr. John Smith,	Seventh.
Mr. John Lewin Smith,	Eighth.
Mr. George Stratton,	Ninth.
Mr. George Dawſon,	Tenth.
Mr. James Bourchier,	Eleventh.
Mr. Henry Brooke,	Twelfth.
Mr. Richard Brickenden,	Thirteenth.
Mr. John Whitehill,	Fourteenth.
Mr. George Dolben,	Fifteenth.
Mr. George Mackay,	Sixteenth, and laſt of Council; and at no time to riſe to an higher rank therein than laſt.

And we incloſe a commiſſion accordingly, under the Company's ſeal, in the Packet, by the ſhip Duke of Grafton, and an atteſted copy thereof will be forwarded in the Duke of Kingſton.

To the honourable Charles Bourchier, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor of Fort Saint George, Joſias Du Pré, Eſquire, Warren Haſtings, Eſquire, Brigadier General Joſeph Smith, and Alexander Wynch, Eſquire.

1. The tenor of our letters to the ſeparate department ſince the negociations were commenced with Nizam Ally for the Circars, will explain to you the ſenſe we have entertained of the deviations that have been made from our former, more contracted, but, as we truſt, more permanent, ſyſtem, of confining our influence and poſſeſſions within the boundaries of the Carnatic; it is to retreat back within thoſe limits, and for other purpoſes, which we ſhall hereafter expreſs, that we hereby appoint you a ſelect committee, and entruſt to your diſcretion and abilities, the conduct of our political affairs.

2. The preſervation of our preſent influence, in the Bengal provinces, is the great object of our attention; all political connections in the reſt of India, are only important, as they may affect us there.

3. Every acceſſion of influence, or poſſeſſion elſewhere, which, by dividing our troops, may prevent the exertion of our whole force, in caſe we ſhould be attacked in that quarter, is hazarding a ſubſtance for a ſhadow; and on this principle we ſhall never think Bengal ſecure while there is an Engliſh ſoldier in the Myſore country. We eſteem your coaſt only as a barrier to our Bengal poſſeſſions; and the depreſſion of the French power in the Carnatic, and their excluſion from the Circars, are the two objects to which all your politics ſhould tend.

4. Judge then our anxiety at ſeeing a ſyſtem adopted ſo repugnant to our views as that of ſupporting Mahomed Ally in the Myſore country. We repeat we ſhall not think ourſelves ſecure while we have a ſoldier or Sepoy in that country, nor till we ſee it given to ſome power who may preſerve it as a barrier againſt the Morattas, and who may be an uſeful ally ſhould we ever have occaſion to call in the aſſiſtance of a country power: Theſe are our views; but not being able to form even a probable conjecture of what may happen from the time of your laſt advices to the time that this ſhall reach your hands, it is impoſſible for us to ſay, how our views are to be accompliſh'd; we truſt entirely to your judgement, ſo to conduct theſe delicate affairs as ſhall the leaſt expoſe us to the imputation of violated faith.

5. Were Mahomed Ally only to be managed, the conduct of the Rajah of Tanjore leaves an opening to ſatisfy him at his expence, in the manner we ſhall point out in the ſubſequent part of this letter; but you may poſſibly find yourſelves embarraſſed with various engagements entered into with the Morattas, or with the diſpoſſeſſed Princes of thoſe countries which have been conquered by Hyder Ally, or with any other country powers, with whom the taſk may be more difficult, and for which we can give no poſitive directions.—Whenever the great purpoſe of retiring again within the boundaries of the Carnatic (having firſt ſecured a proper barrier) is obtained, the defence thereof, and the reduction of the vaſt forces now kept up by the Company and the Nabob, muſt be ſtrictly attended to; but firſt it will be neceſſary to explain ourſelves with reſpect to the Rajah of Tanjore.

6. We have expreſſed our ſenſe of the Rajah of Tanjore's conduct in our letter to the ſeparate department, but have reſerved our intentions with reſpect to that Rajah, to be executed by you.

7. It appears moſt unreaſonable to us, that the Rajah of Tanjore ſhould hold poſſeſſion of the moſt fruitful part of the country, which can alone ſupply our armies with ſubſiſtence, and not contribute to the defence of the Carnatic.—We obſerve the Nabob makes very earneſt repreſentations to you on this ſubject in his letter, entered in the book of country correſpondence, wherein he takes notice that the Zemindars of the Carnatic have been ſupported, and their countries preſerved to them, by the operations of our forces employed in his cauſe, and that nothing was more notorious than that three former Princes of the Carnatic had received from the Tanjore Rajah 70, 80, nay even 100 lacks of rupees at a time; that to the preceding Nizam he had paid a contribution of 50 lacks, and the preſent, if he had met with ſucceſs againſt our army,

would

would not have been content with leſs than a crore of rupees from this Rajah: How juſt does it then appear that he ſhould be made to bear ſome part of the expence of theſe meaſures, to which he owes his ſecurity, and the peace of his country.—We therefore enjoin you to give the Nabob ſuch ſupport in his pretenſions on the Rajah of Tanjore, as may be effectual; and if the Rajah refuſes to contribute a juſt proportion to the expence of the war, you are then to purſue ſuch meaſures as the Nabob may think conſiſtent with the juſtice and dignity of his government.

8. Whatever ſums may in conſequence of the above orders be obtained from the Rajah of Tanjore, we expect ſhall be applied to the diſcharge of the Nabob's debt to the Company; and if more than ſufficient for that purpoſe, to the diſcharge of his debt to individuals.

9. In our letter to the ſeparate department, under this date, we have teſtified our great ſurprize at the reports that are circulated by the amount of the Nabob's debt to individuals, being more than 20 lacks of pagodas, and that the Governor and Council act as truſtees for the recovery of the ſame, and as ſuch are in poſſeſſion of the collection of the revenues of great part of the Carnatic.

10. Ignorant as we are of the riſe of this debt, and the truth of theſe reports, we cannot but be ſuſpicious that the intereſt of the Company is much wronged thereby.

11. We are alarmed leſt this debt to individuals ſhould have been the real motive for the aggrandizement of Mahomed Ally, and that we are plunged into a war, to put him in poſſeſſion of the Myſore revenues, for the diſcharge of the debt.—Nor are we without apprehenſions that the revenues collected by the Nabob in the Carnatic, and the new conqueſts, may be applied to the diſcharge of this debt, inſtead of being applied to the ſupport of the war.

12. If the report of the truſt veſted in the Governor and Council is true, we cannot conſider it in any other light than a total inverſion of the nature of our ſervice.—It is avowing private intereſt diametrically oppoſite to the Company's, and in a caſe where they muſt continually come in competition—charged on our part with the recovery of a debt due from the Nabob, for ſupporting him in a war during almoſt twenty years, how can our ſervants, conſiſtent with their duty and fidelity, neglect the diſcharge of ſo great a public truſt, or ſuffer any intereſt of their own to come in competition with it; or how can they dare to employ the forces, influence, and authority of the Company, in collecting the revenues of the Nabob, mortgaged to themſelves?—The honour and dignity of the Company is ſo materially affected by thoſe proceedings, that we expect you to impreſs our ſervants with the due ſenſe of the diſtinction, which ariſes between private and public intereſt, ſo diametrically oppoſite in this inſtance, and how incompatible their conduct is with the character of faithful ſervants to the Company; and therefore the firſt ſtep you are to take is to demand from them a renunciation of all the power and authority given them by the Nabob, for the collection of any part of his revenue, for his debts to individuals; for we cannot ſuffer the idea of ſuch a right to be entertained, either by the Nabob, or by our ſervants, in excluſion of ourſelves.

13. Having done this, you are then to demand from the Nabob, an account of all his debts to the ſervants of the Company or inhabitants, ariſing under our protection.—You are to examine them ſeparately, and ſee that they are charged with no higher intereſt than after the rate of 10 per cent. from the day of the receipt of our orders on that ſubject, under date of the 17th May 1766, Par^a. 33.

14. Having adjuſted theſe accounts, you are to let the Nabob know, his firſt obligation is to diſcharge his debt due to the Company. You are therefore to offer him your aſſiſtance, and if neceſſary, even inſiſt in the ſtrongeſt manner on his entering into the detail of his revenues, and to point out to you what further reſources he has for the diſcharge of his debts, and to make the liquidation thereof a matter of public diſcuſſion between you and him, and give the ſanction of the Company's authority to the meaſures to be taken for the diſcharge of his debt to individuals, without which he can never be a uſeful ally.

15. You are to be very minute in repreſenting to us whatever can give any light into the riſe and progreſs of this uncommon debt, and the meaſures you adopt for procuring the diſcharge of it.

16. We have expreſſed our ſentiments in our letter to the ſeparate department on the great and almoſt unneceſſary force kept up by the Nabob, but we rely on you for purſuing the proper meaſures to enforce the reduction of them to a number more ſuitable to the ſtate of the Nabob's finances: When we permitted an increaſe of the Sepoy eſtabliſhment in 1765, it was with a view to reduce the numbers of his undiſciplined rabble, inſtead of which they have been encreaſing to a degree as would almoſt incline us to think he meant in future to rely on them for the defence of the Carnatic; the folly of this muſt be ſtrongly repreſented to him, and you muſt inculcate to him that he cannot ſtrengthen himſelf by any mode ſo effectual as the re-eſtabliſhing his finances. Remind him of the long war we have ſuſtained in the defence of the Carnatic; that the time may come when ſuch another effort may be required againſt the ſame powerful enemy; that he is always to bear this in his mind as a poſſible event, and be preparing againſt it; and that no preparation will be ſo effectual as a full treaſury; and till that is accompliſhed, he muſt confine all his ambition to the putting the Carnatic into a proper ſtate of defence, by keeping up the fortifications, and having his magazines well ſtored.

17. Our letter to the ſeparate department by this conſequence will ſufficiently explain to you our ſentiments with reſpect to the mode adopted of late years, for contracting for ſupplies to the army; and you are therefore hereby moſt poſitively ordered to examine and correct all abuſes

that

that may appear to you to have been committed in this reſpect, and revert to our former orders on this ſubject.

18. There is nothing which affects the welfare of the Company more than an impartial adminiſtration of juſtice towards their ſervants; and we find ourſelves extremely perplexed what opinion to form on the cenſures paſſed by the Governor and Council againſt Meſſrs. Dowſett and Cuming, on account of the doubts that ariſe from the character of Veerago, the principal evidence, and the contradictions in the ſeveral evidences, but more eſpecially from that given in upon oath by Cundapah relative to Mr. Dowſett, ſubſequent to the deciſion of the Governor and Council on the caſes of Meſſrs. Dowſett and Cuming, and which evidence of Cundapan will very materially affect that given againſt them.—This has induced us to ſuſpend our judgment; and we refer it to your deciſion, and recommend it to you, to go attentively through the former trial, to conſider the weight due to the evidence given by Cundapah, and any new lights that may ſince be received if Narſoo is found; and ſhould they be found guilty of the charge laid againſt them, our order is, that they be diſmiſſed our ſervice, and ſent home by the firſt conveyance; and on the other hand, ſhould you deem them worthy of being reſtored, we impower you ſo to do, and to let their ſalary and allowances from the Company be continued to them from the time they were withheld.—However, whether they are reſtored or not, you are to ſee that the ſeveral ſums are reſunded, which the Company have been defrauded of, by the carrying on of the works at Cuddalore during the time that Meſſrs. Dowſett and Cuming were paymaſters there.—And if in the courſe of your inveſtigating theſe affairs, it may appear to you that any of the natives have been guilty of fraudulent practices, you are to withdraw our protection from thoſe who are ſo unworthy of it, and baniſh them from our bounds.

London, the 17th March 1769.

We are your loving friends,

Charles Chambers,	H. Crabb Boulton,
Ja. Cockburn,	G. Colebrooke,
Jn° Woodhouſe,	J. Purling,
Ben. Booth,	Frek Pigou,
J. Creſwicke,	E. H. Cruttenden,
Peter Du Cane, Junior,	Wm James,
William Snell,	Daniel Wier,
John Harriſon,	Edwd Wheler,
Luke Scraſton,	J. Hurlock,
Rob. Jones,	J. Pardoe.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies,
To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting.

Know ye, That we the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Roger Drake, Junior, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid Roger Drake, to be Preſident and Governor, of and for all the ſaid Company's affairs in the Bay of Bengal, and other the places and provinces thereunto belonging in the Eaſt Indies; and alſo to be our Governor and Commander in chief of our Fort William, in the Bay of Bengal, and all the Towns and territories thereunto belonging, and of all and ſingular the forts, factories, and ſettlements, territories, countries, and juriſdictions thereof, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company, in the ſaid forts, towns, and places, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being: And, to the end the ſaid Roger Drake may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the ſaid United Company, we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain William Watts, Eſquire, to be ſecond of our Council of Fort William, next after our ſaid Preſident Roger Drake, Major James Kilpatrick to be and continue third of our ſaid Council, and not to riſe to a ſuperior rank therein, Mr. Charles Manningham to be fourth, Mr. Richard Beecher to be fifth, Mr. Paul Richard Parkes to be ſixth, Mr. William Frankland to be ſeventh, Mr. Matthew Collet to be eighth, Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell to be ninth, Mr. William Mackett to be tenth, Mr Edward Eyre to be eleventh, and Mr. Nicholas Clerembault, to be twelfth, and laſt, of the ſaid Council of Fort William, for governing and managing all the ſaid Company's affairs in Bengal, and the places and provinces thereunto belonging as aforeſaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident and Governor, Roger Drake, Eſquire, and to our Council aforenamed, or the major part of them (the whole Council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and ſervants under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort William, and all the towns and territories thereunto belonging, to adminiſter lawful oaths as occaſion ſhall require, and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities, as the ſaid Preſident and Governor, and his Council, in their ſeveral and reſpective places where the ſaid United Company have, or ſhall have, factors or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to ſuch inſtructions and directions as the ſaid Roger Drake, our Preſident and Governor, and Council

aforeſaid, ſhall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being: And we the ſaid United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of the ſaid Fort William, and all the towns and territories thereunto belonging, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto him the ſaid Roger Drake, our Preſident and Governor, and his Council, accordingly.—And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid Roger Drake, our preſidency ſhould be provided for the defence and goverment thereof; we do therefore by theſe preſents, ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe the ſaid William Watts, Eſquire, ſhall immediately be and ſucceed in the place and charge of Preſident and Governor of Fort William aforeſaid; and in caſe of his death or removal, the next in degree of council below the ſaid Major James Kilpatrick ſhall ſucceed in the ſaid preſidency and government, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample powers, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid Roger Drake, until our further pleaſure be known therein: And we do hereby revoke, repeal, annul, and make void, every former commiſſion and commiſſions, given and granted by us, whereby any other perſon or perſons was and were conſtituted and ordained Preſident and Governor, and any other perſons therein named were conſtituted and ordained, to be of the Council at Fort William aforeſaid. In witneſ whereof, we the ſaid United Company have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, the eleventh day of February, in the Twenty-ninth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the Second, by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-ſix.

(L. S.)

Signed by order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Bengal, dated the 11th February 1756.

You will receive by the ſhip Cheſterfield, a commiſſion under the ſeal of the Company, whereby the undernamed perſons are conſtituted and appointed to preſide over and manage all the Company's affairs at Fort William in Bengal, and all the ſeveral dependencies thereunto belonging; viz.

Roger Drake, Eſquire,	Preſident and Governor.
William Watts, Eſquire,	Second of Council, and to ſucceed as Preſident and Governor, in caſe of the death or removal of Mr. Drake.
James Kilpatrick, Eſquire,	as Major and third of Council, and to remain ſo without riſing to a ſuperior rank therein.
Mr. Charles Manningham,	Fourth in Council.
Mr. Richard Becher,	Fifth.
Mr. Paul Richard Pearkes,	Sixth.
Mr William Frankland,	Seventh.
Mr. Matthew Collet,	Eighth.
Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell,	Ninth.
Mr. William Mackett,	Tenth.
Mr. Edward Eyre,	Eleventh.
Mr. Nicholas Clerembault,	Twelfth.

Memorandum: The reſt of the commiſſions and inſtructions, relating to the preſidency of Fort William, will appear by the following letters, which are entered in the books of letters to that preſidency, now before the Committee.

General letter 3d Auguſt 1757—Paras 5 and 7.
11th Novemr — — 46.
8th March 1768 — 4 and 6.
23d Do — — 1.
11th April — — 1.
13th March 1761 — 65.
9th Febry 1764.
9th May — — 28.
1ſt June — — 19. 67. 68. 69.
17th May 1766 — 40.
12th Janry 1768 — 7. 9. 10.
15th Septemr 1769 — 3.

The United Company of merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies: To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting. Know ye, that we, the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Charles Crommelin, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid Charles Crommelin, Eſquire, upon, and from the laſt day of February, which ſhall be in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty, to be Preſident, of and for all our affairs at Bombay, and in Surat, Cambay, and Perſia, and at Tellicherry, Anjengo, and all our ſettlements on the Malabar coaſt, and elſewhere in the Eaſt Indies, under the direction of the late Preſident and Council; and alſo to be our commander in chief and Governor of our caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and of the ſeveral forts thereon, and of our

our forts of Tellicherry and Anjengo, and of all and ſingular other the forts, territories, and juriſdictions belonging thereunto, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company in the ſaid forts, towns, and places, or ſent from thence by land or ſea, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being: And, to the end the ſaid Charles Crommelin may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of the ſaid Company, we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain Mr. George Scott to be ſecond of our Council of Bombay, next after our ſaid Preſident Charles Crommelin; Mr. Thomas Byfield, third; Mr. Thomas Hodges, fourth; Mr. Alexander Douglaſs, fifth; Mr. Brabazon Ellis, ſixth; Mr. William Hornby, ſeventh; Mr. William Andrew Price, eighth; Mr. John Spencer, ninth; Captain Samuel Hough, tenth; Mr. Thomas Whitehill, eleventh; and Mr. Charles Waters, twelfth, and laſt, of our ſaid council of Bombay, for governing and managing of all the ſaid Company's affairs at Bombay and other the places aforeſaid, and governing the ſaid caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements, within any the territories aforeſaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident, Charles Crommelin, Eſquire, and to our Council aforenamed, or the major part of them, whereof our ſaid Preſident to be always one (the whole Council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority, from time to time to rule and govern all and every our factors and ſervants under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and elſewhere within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths as occaſion ſhall require, and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities as the ſaid Preſident and his Council in their ſeveral and reſpective places, where the ſaid United Company have, or ſhall have factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to ſuch inſtructions and directions, as they the ſaid Charles Crommelin our Preſident and Council aforeſaid, ſhall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being:—And we the ſaid United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid iſland and caſtle of Bombay, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto the ſaid Charles Crommelin our Preſident and Governor and his Council, accordingly: And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid Charles Crommelin, our preſidency ſhould be provided for the defence and government thereof, we do therefore by theſe preſents, ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe the ſaid Mr. Thomas Hodges ſhall immediately be and ſucceed in the place and charge of Preſident and Governor of Bombay aforeſaid, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample powers and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid Charles Crommelin, until our, or the Court of Directors for the time being, as aforeſaid, their further pleaſure be known therein. In witneſs whereof we the ſaid United Company have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, this twenty-fifth day of April, in the thirty-ſecond year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the Second, by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth; and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-nine.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the general letter to Bombay, dated the 25th April, 1759.

We ſhall now proceed to regulate and fix your eſtabliſhment: We accordingly direct and appoint Charles Crommelin, Eſquire, to be Preſident and Governor of our Iſland of Bombay, and that he take the chair on the laſt day of February 1760, or ſooner if Governor Bourchier ſhall chuſe to reſign; and in caſe of the death or abſence of Mr. Crommelin, we appoint Thomas Hodges, Eſquire, to be Governor of Bombay: and on the death or abſence of Mr. Hodges, it is our pleaſure, that thoſe of council next below Mr. Hodges ſucceed to the government in turn, as we ſhall rank them; all thoſe in council ſtanding above Mr. Hodges are barred from the ſucceſſion: And we do hereby appoint the following perſons to be our Governor and Council for the management of our affairs under your preſidency.

Charles Crommelin, Eſquire,	Preſident and Governor, to take the chair on the laſt day of February, 1760, or ſooner if Mr. Bourchier ſhould reſign.
George Scott,	Second of council; to riſe no higher.
Thomas Byfeld,	Third.
Thomas Hodges,	Fourth; to ſucceed as Preſident and Governor, in caſe of the death or abſence of Mr. Crommelin.
Alexander Douglas,	Fifth.
Brabazon Ellis,	Sixth.
William Hornby,	Seventh.
William Andrew Price,	Eighth.
John Spencer,	Ninth.

Samuel

Samuel Hough,	Tenth.
Thomas Whitehill,	Eleventh.
Charles Waters,	Twelfth.

A commiſſion, agreeable to this appointment, is ſent in the Packet, by the ſhip Harcourt.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies.
To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting.

Know ye, that we the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of John Spencer, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid John Spencer, Eſquire, upon and from the laſt day of January, which ſhall be in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſeven, to be Preſident of and for all our affairs at Bombay, and in Surat, Cambay, and Perſia, and at Tellicherry, Anjengo, and all our ſettlements on the Malabar coaſt, and elſewhere, in the Eaſt Indies, now under the direction of Charles Crommelin, Eſquire, Preſident, and the Council of Bombay aforeſaid: and alſo to be our commander in chief, and governor of our caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and of the ſeveral forts thereon, and our forts of Tellicherry and Anjengo, and of all and ſingular other the forts, territories, and juriſdictions, belonging thereunto, and of all the forces which now are or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed for the ſaid United Company, in the ſaid forts, towns, and places, or ſent from thence by land or ſea, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, and to continue in the ſaid exerciſe of the ſame during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, for the time being: And to the end the ſaid John Spencer may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of the ſaid Company, we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain Mr. Thomas Byfeld to be ſecond of our council of Bombay, next after our ſaid Preſident John Spencer; Mr. Thomas Hodges, third; Mr. William Hornby, fourth; Mr. William Andrew Price, fifth; Mr. Thomas Whitehill, ſixth; Mr. Charles Waters, ſeventh; Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench, eighth; Mr. Samuel Court, ninth; Mr. Daniel Draper, tenth; Mr. James Ryley, eleventh; Mr. Henry Moore, twelfth; and Mr. Rawſon Hart Boddam, thirteenth, and laſt, of our ſaid council of Bombay, for governing and managing of all the ſaid company's affairs at Bombay, and other the places aforeſaid, and governing the ſaid caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements, within any of the territories aforeſaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident, John Spencer, Eſquire, and to our Council aforenamed, or the major part of them, whereof our ſaid Preſident to be always one (the whole council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and ſervants under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid caſtle and iſland of Bombay, or elſewhere, or within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths, as occaſion ſhall require, and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities, as the ſaid preſident and his council in their ſeveral and reſpective places, where the ſaid United Company, have, or ſhall have, factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to ſuch inſtructions and directions as they the ſaid John Spencer, Preſident and Council aforeſaid, ſhall, from time to time, receive, under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being; and we the ſaid United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid iſland and caſtle of Bombay, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto the ſaid John Spencer, our Preſident and Governor, and his Council, accordingly: And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid John Spencer, our preſidency ſhould be provided for the defence and government thereof, we do therefore by theſe preſents ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe the ſaid Mr. Thomas Hodges ſhall immediately be and ſucceed in the place and charge of Preſident and Governor of Bombay, and its dependencies aforeſaid, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample powers and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid John Spencer, until our or the Court of Directors for the time being as aforeſaid, their further pleaſure be known therein. In witneſs whereof we the ſaid United Company have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, this twelfth day of March, in the ſixth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſix.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Rob^t. James, Secretary.

Extract of the General Letter to Bombay, dated the 12th March 1766.

Having ordered and directed Mr. Crommelin to reſign the government on the 31ſt of January 1767, Mr. John Spencer being appointed by our letters of the 1ſt June 1764, and the 22d March 1765, to ſucceed thereto, he is accordingly, on the ſaid 31ſt day of January 1767, to take charge of the government as Preſident and Governor of Bombay; and we hope he will, by his

his fidelity, diligence, ſtrict obſervance of our orders, and conſtant application in the ſaid ſtation, render himſelf worthy of this ſignal mark of our favour.

And we do hereby order and direct, that our Council at Bombay do conſiſt of the following perſons; viz.

John Spencer, Eſquire,	Preſident and Governor.
Mr. Thomas Byfeld,	Second.
Mr. Thomas Hodges,	Third.
Mr. William Hornby,	Fourth.
Mr. William Andrew Price,	Fifth.
Mr. Thomas Whitehill,	Sixth.
Mr. Charles Waters,	Seventh.
Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench,	Eighth.
Mr. Samuel Court,	Ninth.
Mr. Daniel Draper,	Tenth.
Mr. James Ryley,	Eleventh.
Mr. Henry Moore,	Twelfth
Mr. Rawſon Hart Boddam,	Thirteenth.

We accordingly ſend, by the ſhip Nottingham, a commiſſion under the Company's ſeal, confirming the ſaid appointment.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies.
To all, to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting.

Know ye, That the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Thomas Hodges, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid Thomas Hodges to be Preſident of and for all our affairs at Bombay, and in Surat, Cambay, and Perſia, and at Tellicherry, Anjengo, and all our ſettlements on the Malabar coaſt, and elſewhere, in the Eaſt Indies, under the direction of the late Preſident and Council; and alſo to be our commander in chief, and Governor of our caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and of the ſeveral forts thereon, and of our forts of Tellicherry and Anjengo, and of all and ſingular other the forts, territories, and juriſdictions, belonging thereunto, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed, for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company, in the ſaid forts, towns, and places, or ſent from thence by land or ſea, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining, by order and direction of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame, during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt-Indies, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being: And to the end that the ſaid Thomas Hodges, may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of the ſaid Company, we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain Mr. William Hornby to be ſecond of our Council of Bombay, next after our ſaid Preſident Thomas Hodges, Mr. William Andrew Price to be third, Mr. Thomas Whitehill to be fourth, Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench to be fifth, Mr. Samuel Court to be ſixth, Mr. Daniel Draper to be ſeventh, Mr. James Ryley to be eighth, Mr. Henry Moore to be ninth, Mr. Rawſon Hart Boddam to be tenth, Mr. Benjamin Jarvis to be eleventh, Mr. Thomas Moſtyn to be twelfth, and Mr. Nathaniel Stackhouſe to be thirteenth and laſt, of our ſaid Council of Bombay, for governing and managing all the ſaid company's affairs at Bombay, and other the places aforeſaid, and governing the ſaid caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements, within any the territories and places aforeſaid: And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident, Thomas Hodges, Eſquire, and to our Council aforenamed, or the major part of them, whereof our ſaid Preſident to be always one (the whole Council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority from time to time to rule and govern all and every our factors, and ſervants, under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid caſtle and iſland of Bombay, and elſewhere, within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths, as occaſion ſhall require; and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities, as the ſaid Preſident and his Council, in their ſeveral and reſpective places, where the ſaid United Company have or ſhall have factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do according to ſuch inſtructions and directions, as he the ſaid Thomas Hodges, our Preſident and Council, aforeſaid, ſhall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being. And we the ſaid United Company do hereby order and require, all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid iſland and caſtle of Bombay, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto the ſaid Thomas Hodges, our Preſident and Governor, and his Council accordingly. And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid Thomas Hodges, our preſidency ſhould be provided for the defence and government thereof; we do therefore by theſe preſents, ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe, the ſaid William Hornby ſhall immediately be, and ſucceed in the place and charge of, Preſident and Governor of Bombay aforeſaid, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample powers, privileges, and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid Thomas Hodges, until our, or the Court of Directors for the time being

as aforeſaid, their further pleaſure be known therein. In witneſs whereof, we the ſaid United Company have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, the eighteenth day of March, in the eighth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the third, by the grace of God, King, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty eight.

(L. S.)

Signed by order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Bombay, dated 18th March 1768.

Thomas Hodges, Eſq; having ſucceeded to the chair at your preſidency, agreeable to our orders of the 17th May 1766, you will receive by the ſhip Royal Captain, now under diſpatch for Bombay, a commiſſion under the Company's ſeal, conſtituting him Preſident and Governor, and the following perſons of Council, for managing our affairs at Bombay, viz.

Thomas Hodges, Eſquire.	Preſident and Governor.
Mr. William Hornby,	Second
Mr. William Andrew Price,	Third.
Mr. Thomas Whitehill,	Fourth.
Mr. Peter Elwin Wrench,	Fifth
Mr. Samuel Court,	Sixth.
Mr. Daniel Draper,	Seventh.
Mr. James Ryley,	Eighth.
Mr. Henry Moore,	Ninth.
Mr. Rawſon Hart Boddom,	Tenth.
Mr. Benjamin Jervis,	Eleventh.
Mr. Thomas Moſtyn,	Twelfth.
Mr. Nathaniel Stackhouſe,	Thirteenth.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting.

Know ye, that we, the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Roger Carter, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain the ſaid Roger Carter to be Preſident and Governor, of and for all our affairs on the iſland of Sumatra, in the Eaſt Indies, and alſo to be our commander in chief of our Fort Marlborough at Bencoolen, on the ſaid iſland, and all the territories, thereunto belonging, and of all and ſingular the towns, forts, factories, and ſettlements, territories, countries, and juriſdictions thereof, and of all others which now are, or hereafter ſhall or may become ſubordinate thereto or dependant thereon, or ſhall or may be acquired, and annexed to the ſaid preſidency, although not ſituate on the ſaid iſland of Sumatra, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company in the ſaid forts, towns, places, and acquiſitions; giving and hereby granting to the ſaid Roger Carter, full power and authority to execute all and every the powers and authorities appertaining to the ſaid offices or places of Preſident and Governor, and commander in chief as aforeſaid, in as full and ample manner, and with the like powers and authorities, as all or any of our Preſidents and Governors, and commanders in chief of any other of our forts, factories, places, and ſettlements, in the Eaſt Indies aforeſaid, are empowered by us to do, by and according to ſuch orders and directions, as have been, from time to time, eſtabliſhed by the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, for the government and conduct of their affairs on the ſaid iſland of Sumatra, or as he the ſaid Roger Carter ſhall now, or at any time hereafter receive, under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company, or under the hands of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being: or any thirteen or more of them, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame, during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company for the time being. And, to the end that the ſaid Roger Carter, Eſquire, may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the ſaid Company, as our Preſident and Governor as aforeſaid, we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain Richard Wyatt, Eſquire, to be ſecond of our Council at Fort Marlborough aforeſaid, next after our ſaid Preſident Roger Carter; Mr. Joſeph Darvall to be third; Mr. William Norris to be fourth; Mr. Richard Preſton to be fifth; Mr. Robert Hay to be ſixth; Mr. Alexander Hall to be ſeventh; Mr. Henry Idell to be eighth; and Mr. Chriſtopher Watſon to be ninth, and laſt, of our ſaid Council at Fort Marlborough, for managing and governing all the ſaid Company's affairs upon the ſaid iſland of Sumatra, the ſaid Fort Marlborough and town of Bencoolen, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements, on the iſland aforeſaid, and which now are, or ſhall or may hereafter become dependant thereon and ſubordinate thereto, although not ſituated on the ſaid iſland. And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident and Governor, Roger Carter, and to our Council aforenamed, or the major part of them, (the whole Council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority, from time to time to rule and govern all and every our factors and ſervants, under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Marlborough and town of Bencoolen, and elſewhere, within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths as occaſion ſhall require, and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all

ſuch

ſuch other powers and authorities as any of the ſaid United Company's Preſidents and Governors and their Councils in their ſeveral and reſpective places, where the ſaid United Company have, or ſhall have factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to ſuch orders and inſtructions as he, the ſaid Roger Carter, our Preſident and Governor, and Council aforeſaid, ſhall from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being:—And we the ſaid United Company do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Marlborough and town of Bencoolen, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency; to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto the ſaid Roger Carter our Preſident and Governor and his Council, accordingly. In witneſs whereof, the ſaid United Company have cauſed their common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, this fourth day of February, in the firſt year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the Third, by the grace of God, King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth; and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-one.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Fort Marlborough, dated 4 February 1761.

91. As Fort Marlborough is now become an independant ſettlement; our affairs are to be conducted by a Governor, or Preſident and Council, in the ſame manner, and with the like powers and authorities, as our other preſidencies. We have accordingly conſtituted and appointed the following gentlemen to be our ſaid Governor, or Preſident, and Council; and herewith you will receive a commiſſion, under the Company's ſeal, for the ſaid purpoſe; viz.

Roger Carter to be	Governor and Preſident.
Mr. Richard Wyatt,	Second in Council.
Mr. Joſeph Darvall,	Third.
Mr. William Norris,	Fourth.
Mr. Richard Preſton,	Fifth.
Mr. Robert Hay,	Sixth.
Mr. Alexander Hall,	Seventh.
Mr. Henry Idell,	Eighth.
Mr. Chriſtopher Watſon,	Ninth and laſt.

The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies.

To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting.

Know ye, that we the ſaid United Company, repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, juſtice, and circumſpection, of Richard Wyatt, Eſquire, have made, conſtituted, and ordained, and by theſe preſents do make, conſtitute, and ordain, the ſaid Richard Wyatt to be Preſident and Governor of and for all our affairs on the iſland of Sumatra in the Eaſt-Indies, and alſo to be our commander in chief of our Fort Marlborough, at Bencoolen, on the ſaid iſland, and all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and ſingular the towns, forts, factories, and ſettlements, territories, countries, and juriſdictions thereof, and of all others which now are, or hereafter ſhall or may become ſubordinate thereto, or dependant thereon, or ſhall or may be acquired and annexed to the ſaid preſidency, although not ſituated on the ſaid iſland of Sumatra, and of all the forces which now are, or hereafter may or ſhall be, employed for the ſervice of the ſaid United Company, in the ſaid forts, towns, places, and acquiſitions, from and after the day that Roger Carter, Eſquire, now in charge of our ſaid government and preſidency, is ordered and directed in the general letter to the preſidency aforeſaid, under the hands of the major part of the preſent Court of Directors of the ſaid Company, bearing even date with theſe preſents, to reſign and yield up the ſaid government and preſidency as aforeſaid to Richard Wyatt, Eſquire; giving, and hereby granting, to the ſaid Richard Wyatt, full power and authority to execute all and every the powers and authorities appertaining to the ſaid offices or places of Preſident and Governor, and Commander in chief as aforeſaid, in as full and ample manner, and with the like powers and authorities, as all, or any of our Preſidents and Governors, and Commanders in chief of any other of our forts, factories, places, and ſettlements, in the Eaſt Indies aforeſaid, are empowered by us to do, by and according to ſuch orders and directions, as have been, from time to time, eſtabliſhed by the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, for the government and conduct of their affairs on the ſaid iſland of Sumatra; or as he, the ſaid Richard Wyatt, ſhall now, or at any time hereafter, receive under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company, or under the hands of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company, for the time being, or any thirteen or more of them, and to continue in the exerciſe of the ſame during our and their pleaſure, and until the contrary thereof ſhall be ſignified under the ſeal of the ſaid United Company, or under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid Company, for the time being: And to the end the ſaid Richard Wyatt, Eſquire, may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the ſaid Company, as our ſaid Preſident and Governor as aforeſaid, we do by theſe preſents conſtitute and ordain Joſeph Darvall, Eſquire, to be ſecond of our Council at Fort Marlborough aforeſaid, next to, and immediately after, our ſaid Preſident Richard Wyatt, Mr. Robert Hay to be third; Mr. George Scott to be fourth;

Mr.

Mr. Robert Nairne to be fifth; Mr. John Herbert to be ſixth; Mr. Hew Stewart to be ſeventh; Mr. John Gould to be eighth, and Mr. Stokeham Donſton to be ninth, and laſt, of our ſaid Council at Fort Marlborough, for managing and governing all the ſaid company's affairs upon the ſaid iſland of Sumatra, the ſaid Fort Marlborough, and Town of Bencoolen, and all other our forts, factories, and ſettlements, on the iſland aforeſaid; and which now are, or ſhall or may hereafter become dependant thereon, and ſubordinate thereto, although not ſituated on the ſaid iſland. And we do hereby give and grant unto our ſaid Preſident and Governor, Richard Wyatt, and to our Council aforenamed, or to the major part of them (the whole council being duly ſummoned) full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factors and ſervants under the ſaid preſidency, and all the ſoldiers and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Marlborough, and Town of Bencoolen, and elſewhere, within the places aforeſaid, to adminiſter lawful oaths, as occaſion ſhall require, and to do and perform all ſuch other acts and things, and to uſe and exerciſe all ſuch other powers and authorities, as any of the ſaid United Company's Preſidents and Governors, and their Councils, in their ſeveral and reſpective places, where the ſaid United Company, have, or ſhall have, factors, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, according to ſuch orders and inſtructions, as he the ſaid Richard Wyatt, our Preſident and Governor, and Council aforeſaid, ſhall, from time to time, receive, under the hands of thirteen or more of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being. And we, the ſaid United Company, do hereby order and require all our factors, ſervants, officers, and ſoldiers, within the limits of the ſaid preſidency, and all the people and inhabitants of our ſaid Fort Marlborough, and Town of Bencoolen, or any other our forts, places, or colonies, within the ſaid preſidency, to conform, ſubmit, and yield due obedience unto the ſaid Richard Wyatt, our Preſident and Governor, and his Council accordingly: And foraſmuch as it is altogether neceſſary, that in caſe of the death or removal of the ſaid Richard Wyatt, our preſidency ſhould be provided for the better defence and government thereof, we do therefore by theſe preſents ordain and appoint, that in ſuch caſe the ſaid Joſeph Darvall, Eſquire, ſhall immediately be and ſucceed in the place and charge of Preſident and Governor of Fort Marlborough, aforeſaid, in as full and ample manner, and with as large and ample powers and authorities, as are hereby granted unto the ſaid Richard Wyatt, until our or the Court of Directors for the time being as aforeſaid, their further pleaſure be known therein. In witneſs whereof, we the ſaid United Company have cauſed our common ſeal to be affixed to theſe preſents, this eleventh day of January, in the ſixth year of the reign of his moſt excellent Majeſty George the Third, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſix.

(L. S.)

Signed by Order of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company.

Robt. James, Secretary.

Extract of the Company's general letter to Fort Marlborough, dated the 15th January, 1766.

Having made out a commiſſion under the Company's ſeal, bearing date the ſame day with this letter, confirming the appointment of Richard Wyatt, Eſquire, to be Preſident and Governor, and the other perſons to be Counſellors in the order they are named; we ſend the ſame by the Havannah, and an atteſted copy thereof by the Hawke.

APPENDIX.

N° 2.

Liſt of copies of the ſeveral treaties and grants from the country powers to the Eaſt-India Company, reſpecting their preſidency at Fort William in Bengal, from the year 1756 to 1766, both years incluſive; which are in poſſeſſion of the houſe.

N° 1. Treaty executed by the Nabob Serajah Dowla, and agreements of the Preſident and Select Committee, and Colonel Clive on the part of the Company, in February, 1757.

2. Perwannahs from Nabob Serajah Dowla, for erecting a mint, and for the currency of buſineſs, and copy of his Duſtuck, dated in March 1757.

3. Treaty between Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan and the Company, in June 1757.

4. General Sunnud from the Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan, for currency of the Company's buſineſs, and relating to the Mint, dated 15th July 1757.

5. Perwannah from Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan, for currency of gold and ſilver coined in the Company's Mint at Calcutta, dated the 28th of July 1757.

6. Perwannah from Jaffier Ally Khan, relating to the Zemindarry of the lands, South of Calcutta, granted to the Company by the treaty with the ſaid Nabob, dated in December 1757.

7. Perwannah from Nabob Jaffier Aily Khan, granting to the Company the ſole purchaſe of the ſalt-petre, produced in the province of Bahar, dated in March 1758.

8. Sunnud from the Dewan of the Subah of Bengal, for the Zemindarry of the lands granted to the Company by Meer Jaffier Ally Khan, dated in December 1758.

9. Sunnud from the Dewan of Bengal, granting the free tenure of Calcutta, &c. to the Company, dated in December 1758.

10. Treaty between Nabob Meer Mahomed Coſſim Ally Khan, and the Company, dated 27th September 1760.

11. Sunnuds

11. Sunnuds from Nabob Meer Mahomed Coſſim Khan, granting to the Company the lands of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Iſlamabad, alſo the Chunam produced at Silhet; for three years, dated in October 1760.

12. Treaty between the Company and Nabob Meer Jaffier Ally Khan, and articles demanded by the Nabob, and agreed to by the Governor and Council, dated 10th July 1763.

13. Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan's note, for payment of five lacks per month, for expences of the Company's troops, during the war with Shujah ul Dowla, dated 16th December 1764.

14. Propoſals made by the King Shah Aalum to Major Munro, and articles propoſed by the Governor and Council to be executed by the King; alſo Firmaun from the King granting the Gauzee poor country to the Company; the letter dated the 29th of December 1764.

15. Treaty between the Company and Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, in February 1765.

16 General Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, granting to the Company the Dewanny of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, dated 12th Auguſt 1765.

17. Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, granting the Dewanny of Bengal to the Company, dated 12th Auguſt 1765.

18. Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, granting the Dewanny of Bahar to the Company, dated 12th Auguſt 1765.

19. Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, granting the Dewanny of Orixa to the Company, dated 12th Auguſt 1765.

20. Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, confirming to the Company the Chucklees of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, and the 24 Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. before ceded to them by the Nabobs Jaffier Ally Khan and Coſſim Ally Khan, dated 12th Auguſt 1765.

21. Treaty between Nabob Shuja ul Dowla, Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla and the Company, dated 16th Auguſt 1765.

22. Agreement between the King Shah Aalum and the Company, relating to the tribute to be paid to him from the revenues of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, dated 19th Auguſt 1765.

23. Agreements between the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, and the Company, relating to the allowance to be paid him for the ſupport of the Nizamut.

Grants relating to Lord Clive's Munſub and Jaghire.

N° 1. Sunnud from the King Aulum Geer, appointing Colonel Clive a Munſubdar, dated about December 1757.

2. Nabob Meer Jaffier Ally Khan's Perwannah for the payment of Colonel Clive's jaghire, dated in July 1757.

3. Sunnud from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, for the reverſion in perpetuity of Lord Clive's jaghire to the Company, dated 23d June 1765.

4 Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, confirming the reverſion in perpetuity of Lord Clive's jaghire to the Company.

The royal Phirmaund granted by his Majeſty's Fuzzuckſeer, under his ſeal, and the Vizier's Syad Abidulla Caun.

To all Governors, Officers, Jaggeerdars, Phouſdars, Cohedars, Chokeys, Hororeys, Jemidars, and all who bear poſts under the King at preſent, or ſhall hereafter, in the Subahs of Bengal, Oraſſa, Hughly, and elſewhere within theſe limits, being in hopes of the royal favour; Know, for in this joyful time, when all is proſperous, and victories daily happen, that Mr. John Serman and Coja Seerhaud, Gomaſtahs, for the honourable Eaſt-India Company, have petitioned to my high throne of juſtice, that agreeable to Shaw Jahans (whom God has taken to himſelf, and given a place in heaven) Nuſhan and the former Sunnods, the Engliſh company may carry on their commerce, throughout the whole country, exempt from duties (except Surat) in lieu of which, three thouſand rupees is annually paid a piſhcaſh into the treaſury at Hughly; therefore we are in hopes according to theſe former ſunnods, we ſhall be favoured and granted a Phurmaund.

I now direct and command, that whatever goods or other things the Gomaſtahs may (throughout my dominions) either bring or carry away, by land or by water, have free egreſs and regreſs, exempt from any duties; and in the ſame manner they may buy or ſell at their own liberty; in which conſideration, the three thouſand rupees is to be annually paid a piſhcaſh and no more; and further command, That, if in any place, any of the company's goods ſhould be ſtole, you are to make ſtrict ſearch after them, that they be reſtored, and the thieves taken and brought to juſtice, and at whatever place the Company have where they buy and ſell, in what is right, you are to aſſiſt them and not let them be abuſed; as alſo, from any merchant, weaver, or others, a juſt ballance is due, you are, agreeable to juſtice, to ſee paid, ſo that no injuſtice is done to any of the company's Gomaſtahs, and on any boat, either their own or hired, there is to be no cuſtoms demanded on them.

And it is petitioned, that the Subahs petty Duans demand the ſight of the original ſunnod, as alſo one under the Nabob's ſeal, and another under his Duan's ſeal: The carrying the original one way where is troubleſome; therefore, are in hopes that a copy under the Cazee's ſeal ſhall be regarded, and the original one not inſiſted on, and likewiſe no occaſion to ſhew the Nabob's and Duan's at all: Calcutta, which is the company's factory, it is requeſted, that Soota Loota and Govindpore, (in the country of Ameerabad, in the province of Bengal) which places the company formerly bought of Jemmedar, the revenues 1195.6 are annually paid, and furthermore

thirty-

thirty-eight towns, whoſe annual revenues are 8121.8 rupees which lie near Calcutta, we humbly beg you will grant us the Jemmidarry off, the above rents ſhall be duly paid.

His royal pleaſure, which is always hand in hand with juſtice, commands, That a copy of the original ſunnod, under the high Preeſtat Delly's ſeal ſhall be regarded: The towns bought formerly I acquieſce to the thirty towns, I give you the Jemmidarry off likewiſe, but you muſt buy them and ſatisfy the owner, the Duan Suba will not impede you.

And it is petitioned, that ever ſince the reign of Auringzebe (whom God has placed in heaven) our Cherapatam rupees in all the provinces paſs for leſs than value notwithſtanding the ſilver is the ſame as the Surat rupees, in which we are great ſufferers; therefore beg you will order, if the ſilver be equal with the Surat, that they ſhall not paſs for leſs than value: And it is further petitioned, if any of the Company's debtor or Gomaſtahs elope, that they be ſeized and return to the chief, and that Phowſdarry cuſtoms and all others, which have been forbid, be not taken as our Gomaſtah and Imahts are greatly diſtreſſed by them, they being demanded.

It is peremptorily commanded, that from this 5 ſon for year, if the Cherapatam rupees be equal with the Surat, that they do not paſs for leſs than value; and if any debtor or gomaſtah elope, that they be taken and delivered to their chief.

It is further petitioned, that the Company, having factories in Bengal, Oraſſa, and willing to make ſome in other places, are in hopes, that in whatever other places we think convenient, that forty Begahs of land will be granted for that uſe; likewiſe as ſometimes our ſhips by ſtorms and hard weather, are drove aſhore and ſtranded, the government in thoſe places by force ſeize and plunder the goods, and in other places a quarter is demanded; and further petition the iſland of Bombay, a Company's ſettlement, where the Portugueze coin is current, if approved and an order given, we will coin ſicca rupees there as we do at Cherapatam.

It is commanded, as land was before given to make factories, that it ſhall be now given to make them in other places; and as the Engliſh are people that have made dwellings in my country, and trade in my cities where I am, and have formerly received Sunnods to free them from all duties and cuſtoms; therefore you muſt, in caſe of any of their ſhips being caſt away, or by miſtake go to your port, protect them, and take care of their goods; and likewiſe that Sicca rupees be coined at Bombay, and paſs current as Siccas do.

Agreeable to all that I have ordered, commanded, and wrote in this phurmaund, muſt be punctually complied with and not deviated from, nor demand a new Sunnod every year, but regard this.

Dated the 27th of Mohurrum, 5 ſon of year of his reign.

Copies of Phirmauns, Huſbullhookums, &c. 1717.

N° 1. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk *) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, general of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come throughout all the provinces of the conquered empire; know yee, that at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that in ſeveral ports the Company have factories, where Engliſhmen reſide, buying and ſelling, and there are ſome places and aurengs likewiſe where Engliſh men can't be ſent; for which reaſon they make agreements, and ſend their money by the hands of the merchants of this country, to buy goods for them: They hope that orders may be given to the King's Mutſuddys (officers) that whoſoever ſo going and coming with the Duſtic of the chief of their factory, be not hindered and moleſted. It is commanded, that a liſt be taken from under the ſeal of the chief of the factory, and according to which, that you give ſunnods under your own ſeal, for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out, that you do, purſuant to the great command, take a liſt from under the ſeal of the chief of the factory; and according to which, give Sunnods under your own ſeals. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon, Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 2. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come throughout all the provinces of the conquered empire; know yee, that at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oudeiſa, the Company have factories, and that in other provinces they may likewiſe have liberty to ſettle other factories; they hope, that in whatſoever place they have a mind to ſettle a factory, they may have 40 Begaes of ground given them for the ſame. It is ordered that they have according to cuſtom of their factories in other ſubahſhips; and they have obtained a gracious phirmaun, for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out, that you do, purſuant to the great command, let them in any place ſettle new factories according to the cuſtom of their other factories. Regard this well. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

* The Pole Star of the Empire.

N° 3. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high t eaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come throughout all ports and provinces of the conquered empire; Know yee, that at this inſtant Mr. John Surman C ja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that in any port and ſubahſhip, the Company's gomaſtahs going backwards and forwards by land and water to buy and ſell, if any thing ſhould be ſtole, which God forbid, they hope for ſtrict orders to be given you, that you take care that the Zemeendars, &c. of the place where ſuch goods are ſtolen, do thoroughly aſſiſt in getting them again; and that the goods be returned to the right owner, and due puniſhment be inflicted on the robbers. It is accordiogly commanded, for which reaſon this Hufbullhookum is iſſued out, that you do, purſuant to the great command, if in any place, any thing ſhould be ſtolen, thoroughly aſſiſt in getting it again, and return it to the right owners; and let due puniſhment be inflicted on the rogues. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 4. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, true to his friends; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come throughout all the provinces of the conquered empire; Know yee, That at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the High Miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty, ſetting forth, That the rupees coined in Madraſs mint receive ſome diſcount before received into the King's treaſuries of all Subahſhips, although they are of the ſame fineneſs and goodneſs with Surat, whereby they are great loſers; they hope orders may be given, in caſe they are made the ſame as thoſe at Surat and other places, that there be no diſcount on them, and that they be received current as all other ſiccas are. It is commanded, that from the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign, in caſe they are made the ſame fineneſs and goodneſs with Surat ſiccas, that there be no diſcount on them; they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which reaſon this Hufbullhookum is iſſued out, that you do, purſuant to the great command, from the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign, in caſe Madraſs Siccas are of the ſame fineneſs and goodneſs with Surat Siccas, receive them without any diſcount. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 5. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, true to his friends; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come throughout all the Provinces of the Empire; Know yee, That at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for, and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through the interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, That in all provinces, the Petty Duans, &c. demand ſight of the original ſunnods and perwannas, under the ſeals of the Duans and Subahs; and that the original ſunnods can't, without a great deal of difficulty, be produced in every Subahſhip; they hope that a gracious order may be iſſued out, commanding that a copy from under the ſeal of the Cauzee may ſuffice, and no demands made for the original ſunnods and perwannas, under the ſeals of the Duans and Subas. It is accordingly ordered, that a copy, from under the ſeal of the chief Cauzee be regarded; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which reaſon this Hufbullhookum is iſſued out; that you, purſuant to the great command, have due regard to the copies of ſunnods relating to theſe people, under the ſeal of the chief Cauzee. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 6. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, faithful friend; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come throughout all ports and provinces of the conquered Empire; Know yee, that at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that in many places the Company's gomaſtahs and dealers are much troubled for Phirmauth, &c. other impoſitions laid on them; they hope orders may be given, commanding that for Phirmauſh, Phowſdarry, Zemeendarry, and all manner of impoſitions, they be unmoleſted; it is commanded that all manner of impoſitions be univerſally forgiven; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which reaſon this Hufbullhookum is iſſued out, and that you do, purſuant to the great command, not moleſt and trouble the ſaid nation for any manner of impoſitions, for that is forgiven; that they may go on in their buſineſs with chearfulneſs and ſatisfaction. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 7. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come at the port of Surat, in the province of Bengal, and all other provinces throughout the whole Empire; Know yee, That at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for, and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that the iſland of Bombay, in the ſea, in the ſaid iſland, European ſiccas are current; they hope, from his Majeſty's favour, that they may have there, as at Madraſs, the imperial ſtamp on the ſiccas coined there. It is commanded, that concerning the currency of them you be wrote to, for which this Hufbullhookum is iſſued out; that you, conformable to the great command, ſettle the currency of the rupees coined on that iſland with the imperial ſtamp as all other ſiccas are. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 8. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Hyder Cooli Caun be always in ſafety.

At this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for, and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that the Engliſh had a houſe in Surat for a factory, which is now gone to ruin; that they are uncapable of repairing it, till ſuch time his Majeſty is pleaſed to give it them; they hope that that houſe may be granted them, and without the city four hundred begaes of ground, whereon they may make a houſe and garden; and they will duly pay the rent of ſaid ground into the treaſury. It is ordered, that they have the old houſe to repair according to the Hindoſtan architecture, but not to make bulwarks, or any thing reſembling fortification, and not to make any thing more than there is already to it: That in caſe they do as aforeſaid, let them receive no obſtruction. The ground without the city, towards Norboda Gate, in the town of Bomkey, being taken in at the walling of the city round, inſtead of which ground, that they buy 150 begaes of ground towards Autua, for which this Hufbullhookum is iſſued out; that, conformable to the great command, you let them have the houſe to repair and live in on the terms aforeſaid, and 150 begaes of ground for a houſe and garden, which they buying, let them have according to ancient cuſtom, and receive no moleſtation. Regard this well. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 9. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Cawn; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth

May the honourable Hyder Cooli Cawn be always in ſafety.

At this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for, and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that the Company are cuſtom free throughout the whole empire, excepting at the port of Surat, and at the ſaid port, in the reign of Sha Jahaun, they paid 2 per cent. cuſtom; in the time of Aurengzeb 3 ½ per cent.; and in the reign of Sha Alam 2 ½ per cent. was and is at preſent paid, upon account of abuſes and injuſtice of the Mutſuddys there; they have been for theſe three years forced to withdraw their factory from that place; they hope, according to cuſtom of other provinces, and at the port of Hugely, they may at the port of Surat pay a yearly piſhcaſh of ten thouſand rupees in lieu of cuſtom. It is accordingly commanded, and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun, for which reaſon this Hufbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do, conformable to the great command, receive a piſhcaſh of ten thouſand rupees annually, inſtead of cuſtom, at the port of Surat; and that they be cuſtom free, and called upon for no other account whatſoever. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 10. Another Hufbullhookum, the ſame as above, word for word, directed to all Mutſuddys, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come in the province of Ahomed Abaud, at the port of Surat Royat Butzounch, &c. in the province aforeſaid.

N° 11. Copy of a Hufbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun: the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come at the fortunate port of Surat; Know yee, at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that the Engliſh had a houſe in Surat, for a factory, which is now gone to ruin; that they are uncapable of repairing it till ſuch time as his Majeſty is pleaſed to give it them: They hope that that houſe may be granted them, and without the city 400 Begaes of ground, whereon they may make a houſe and garden; and they will duly pay the rent of the ſaid ground into the treaſury. It is commanded, that they have the old houſe to repair

repair according to the Hindoſtan architecture, but not to make bullworks or any thing reſembling fortification, and not to make any thing more than there is already to it: That in caſe they do as aforeſaid, let them receive no obſtructions. The ground without the city, towards Nurboda Gate, in the town of Boomkey, being taken in at the walling of the city round; inſtead of which ground, that they buy 150 Bagaes of ground towards Autua, for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that conformable to the great command, you let them have the houſe to repair on the terms as aforeſaid, and 150 Bagaes of ground for a houſe and garden, which they buying, let them have according to ancient cuſtom, and receive no moleſtation. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the Moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 12. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Muſſuddys in government, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come in Bengal, at Curreemabaud; Know yee, That at this inſtant Mr. John Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that formerly in the mints of Rajamall and Dacca, the Company's gold and ſilver were coined. It is now ſome time ſince, that at Curreemabaud (Muxoodavad) the mint has been ſettled; they hope, according to former cuſtom, to have the privilege of coining the Company's money there, and that the mint Mutſuddys make no unaccuſtomary demands; and that in the ſeaſon, when other merchants money are coining, they may have three days in the week for coining of the Company's money. It is commanded, that you accordingly ſettle; for which reaſon this Husbullhookum is wrote; that you do, according to former cuſtom, ſettle the coining of the Company's gold and ſilver in the mint of Curreemabaud, and in the ſeaſon when other merchants goods is coined, if it be not againſt the King's intereſt, let them have three days in the week. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 13. Copy of a Huſbullhookum under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter, the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth, as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come in the province of Bengal, at the port of Hugely, in the provinces of Behar and Oudeiſa; Know yee, that at this time Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for, and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that throughout the whole empire the Company are cuſtom free, excepting at the port of Surat; and that according to Sultan Azzeim Sha Behauder, his and former ſunnods they pay a piſhcaſh of R^{s} 3000 yearly, in lieu of cuſtom at the port of Hugely: They hope, from the Imperial favour, to obtain a gracious ſunnod according to the tenor of former ſunnods. It is accordingly ordered, and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out, that you do know, purſuant to the great command, this nation is free from all cuſtom, and that you do let them go on in their mercantile affairs without moleſtation, and receive a piſhcaſh of R^{s} 3000 annually at Hugely, in lieu of cuſtom. Regard this well. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 14. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth, as followeth:

May the honourable Acram Caun live in ſafety.

At this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, That in the mints at Rajamall and Dacca, the Company's gold and ſilver were coined; it is now ſome time ſince that at Curreemabaud (Muxoodavad) the mint has been ſettled; they hope, according to former cuſtom, to have the privilege of coining the Company's money there; and that the mint Mutſuddys do not make any unaccuſtomary demands, only taking the mint charges as cuſtomary; and that in the ſeaſon when other merchants money are coined, they may have three days in the week for the coining of the Company's money. It is commanded that you accordingly ſettle; for which reaſon this Husbullhookum is wrote; that you do according to former cuſtom ſettle the coining of the Company's gold and ſilver, in the mint at Curreemabaud; and in the ſeaſon of coining of other merchants money, if it be not againſt the King's intereſt, let them have three days in the week. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 15. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come at Azzeemabaud (Patna) in the province of Behar; Know yee, at this time Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth,

That

That at the place aforeſaid it is ſome time ſince the Engliſh factory has been in a hired houſe; they hope for the houſe of Meermuzzuffer, which being confiſcated to the King, may be granted for their reſidence. It is commanded that you be wrote to, if the ſaid houſe is confiſcated, that you let them have it for their reſidence; they are not, at the repairing of it, to build bullworks, or any thing like fortifications, for that is forbidden by his Majeſty; for which reaſon this Husbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do act purſuant to the great command. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 16. Copy of a Huſbul hookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come at the port of Chittigoam, at the port of Gangam, &c. Ports in all provinces throughout the whole Empire; Know yee, at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, have, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, That it ſometimes happens Engliſh ſhips meeting with ſtorms, are forced into ports, and drove aſhore and wrecked; the Governors of thoſe ports, unjuſtly, in ſome places, ſeize on all the goods, and in other places demand a quarter part ſalvage; they hope for orders to be given, commanding you to forbear moleſting and doing them injuſtice upon any account whatſoever; but, on the contrary, to aſſiſt and help them as much as you can. It is commanded, that theſe people having their factories in ſeveral ports of the Empire, and commerce to the place of the royal reſidence; and having, by particular kingly favours, obtained Phirmauns cuſtom free; that in the ſalving of their goods and in ſhewing them favour, there be duly and particular care taken; for which reaſon this Husbullhookum is iſſued out; that you, purſuant to the great command, do not moleſt and unjuſtly ſeize on their goods; but on the contrary, aſſiſt and ſhew them favour. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 17. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Saduttulla Caun live in ſafety.

At this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, That the Zemeendars at the port of Cuddalore, in the war of Chingee, did ſend powder, &c. to the aſſiſtance of the rebels, for which reaſon, at that inſtant, purſuant to Aurengzeb's orders, they bought Cuddalore, &c. other towns, by which means the paſſages to the rebels might be ſtopt; at preſent ſeveral rebellious Zemeendars moleſt and give them much trouble there; they hope orders may be given you, commanding that you aſſiſt them, that they may be able to puniſh ſuch rebels. It is according commanded; for which reaſon this is wrote, conformable to the great command, that you act purſuant to the great command, when theſe people endeavours to puniſh ſuch rebels, to help and give them your duly aſſiſtance. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 18. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Saduttalla Caun live in ſafety.

At this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſion of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, That throughout the whole Empire, the Company are cuſtom free at Chinapatam (Madraſs) in the province of Hyderabaud, from the very firſt ſettling a factory there, pay annually into the treaſury the ſum Pag^{s} 1200; they hope it may be continued according to ancient uſage. It is found by the King's books that at Chinapatam they do pay the aforeſaid ſum into the treaſury. It is commanded, that it be there according to ancient cuſtom; and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which reaſon this Husbullhookum is iſſued; that you, purſuant to the great command, do know that theſe people are cuſtom free, and not upon any account whatſoever moleſt them, and receive at Chinapatam into the treaſury the ſum 1200 Pag^{s} according to former cuſtom. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 19. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun: the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyderabaud; Know yee, that at this time Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, That the Zemeendars, at the port of Cuddalore in the war of Chingee, did ſend powder, &c. to the aſſiſtance of the rebels; for which reaſon, at that inſtant, purſuant to Aurengzeb's orders, they bought Cuddalore,

lore, &c. other towns, by which means the paſſages to the rebels might be ſtopt; at preſent, ſeveral Zemeendars moleſt and give them much trouble there; they hope orders may be given you, commanding that you aſſiſt them, that they may be able to puniſh ſuch rebels. It is accordingly commanded; for which reaſon this is wrote, conformable to the great command, that you act purſuant to the great command; when theſe people endeavours to puniſh ſuch rebels, to help and give them your duly aſſiſtance. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5th year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 20. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Anverrudee Caun live in ſafety.

At this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that the iſland of Divii in the ſea, near the port of Metchlipatam, in poſſeſſion of Aberam Palligar, a rebell, ſaid rebell never paying the rent of ſaid iſland, which amounts to Pag^{s} 7000 per annum; in caſe the renting of it be granted the Company, they will ſettle a factory, and inhabit, to the great improvement of it; by which means merchants will be encouraged to go backwards and forwards to Metchlipatam. It is accordingly granted; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out, that you do, purſuant to the great command, let the Company have the renting of ſaid iſland, and receive annually into the treaſury the accuſtomary rent. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 21. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyder Abaud: Know yee, that at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that at the port of Vizagapatam the Company have a factory for Vizagapatam, and 4 other towns near the factory, they pay annually the accuſtomed rent of R^{s} 4862 into the treaſury of Sicca Cool Perwanna and Woodzpunda, two towns, which pay rupees 900 yearly rent, being too far from the factory, they deſire may be returned. It is commanded, that of the 5 towns, thoſe two which they deſire to relinquiſh be taken back; and that the other three remain in their poſſeſſion as formerly; they have obtained a gracious phirmaun; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do, purſuant to the great command, let three of the five towns remain in their hands, and receive the accuſtomed rent from them; and the other two, which amounts to R^{s} 900. take back into the cuſta. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign

N° 22. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyder Abaud; know yee, that at this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that at the time of the war of Chingee, for aſſiſting the King's camp with cannon and proviſions, as a reward for which ſervice, Arengzeb gave the Engliſh Company a preſent of five towns, Trivatore, &c. which remained in their poſſeſſion for a long time. It is now the third year ſince the King's Mutſuddys there has ſeized on them: That they aſſiſted againſt the competitor Jahaundar Sha, and acted in Hugly purſuant to orders, in helping Zeaude Caun with powder, lead, &c.; they hope they may be re-granted them. It is commanded that they be, according as in the days of Aurengzeb; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do let the ſaid towns remain in the Company's poſſeſſion as in the days of Aurengzeb. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 23. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys in government, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyder Abaud, at the port of Metchlipatam in the ſaid province; know yee, by theſe preſents, that Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that the iſland of Divii, in the ſea, near the abovefaid port, in poſſeſſion of Aberam Pulligar, a rebell, ſaid rebell never paying the rent of ſaid iſland, which amounts to Pa^{s} 7000. per annum. In caſe the renting of it be granted the Company, they will ſettle a factory, and inhabit there, to the great improvement of it; whereby merchants will be encouraged

to go backwards and forwards to Metchlipatam. It is commanded accordingly; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do, purſuant to the great command, let the Company have the renting of ſaid iſland, and receive annually the accuſtomed rent in the treaſury. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 24. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

May the honourable Saduttulla Caun live in ſafety.

At this inſtant Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, That at the war of Chingee, for aſſiſting the King's camp with cannon and proviſions, as a reward for which ſervice, Aurengzeb gave the Company a preſent of five towns, Trivatore, &c. which remained in their poſſeſſion for a long time; that it is now the third year ſince the King's Mutſuddys have ſeized on them; and they aſſiſted againſt the competitor Jahaundar Sha, and acted in Hugly purſuant to orders, in helping Zeaudecaun with powder, lead, &c. they hope they may be re-granted them. It is commanded that they be according as in the days of Aurengzeb; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do let the ſaid towns remain in the Company's poſſeſſion, as in the days of Arengzeb. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 25. Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, general of the horſe, friend full of truth; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys that are at preſent, or hereafter may come in the province of Hyderabaud; Know yee, by theſe preſents, that Mr. John Surman Coja Surhaud and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that throughout the empire, the Company are cuſtom free at Chinapatam (Madraſs) in the province of Hyderabaud from the very firſt, and ſettling a factory there, pay annually into the treaſury the ſums Pa^{s} 1200; they hope it may be continued as formerly. It is found by the King's books, that at Chinapatam they do punctually pay the aforeſaid ſum into the treaſury. It is commanded, that it be there according to ancient cuſtom, and they have obtained a gracious Phirmaun; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookhum is iſſued out; that you, purſuant to the great command, do know that theſe people are cuſtom free, and not upon any account whatſoever moleſt them; and receive at Chinapatam, into the treaſury, the ſum Pa^{s} 1200 according to former cuſtom. Regard this well.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

A letter from Coja Surhaud, at Dilly, to the honourable Robert Hedges, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor of Fort William. Received March 1717.

I now ſend incloſed copies of three phirmauns come out, ſigned by the king; alſo copies of thirty husbullhookums; by peruſing of which you will obſerve the poſture of our negotiation, and that all the Company's buſineſs is effected: That I have performed what buſineſs of the Company was incumbent on me; which is plainly demonſtrated by the copies herewith ſent. What more ſhall occur, I ſhall adviſe of by another Coſſid, and ſend ſecond copies of all the incloſed papers. There is two perwannas, one to be directed to the Duan of Hyderabaud, concerning Divii iſland, and the other relating to Vizagapatam, to be directed to the Mutſuddys of Sicca Cool, which are not yet wrote, becauſe their names are not yet known; but to-morrow or next day their names will be known, when the perwannas will be wrote; and likewiſe what is to be wrote on the back of two other perwannas. 28 Maharan, the 5 year.

A letter from Coja Surhaud to the honourable Robert Hedges, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor of Fort William. Received the 26th March, 1717.

Under the 28th of the moon Maharum, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign, incloſed I ſend foul copies of three phirmauns and 30 perwannas, which at that time were not quite compleated; ſince which the three phirmauns are wrote over fair, ſealed and ſigned by the King, and only waits for the Vizier's affixing his ſeal on them to compleat them, which I hope in God will be in leſs than ten days time, when ſhall get atteſted copies under the Cauzee's ſeal, and forward them to you, till then reſt with ſatisfaction; 25 perwannas being finiſhed; incloſed comes copies of them under the Cauzee's ſeal, which I hope will come ſafe to you; the remainder 7 perwannas are in the hands of Ray Bullihund Duan Choolſa, which I hope in God in .. days more will alſo be finiſhed. I have acted in the Company's affairs with my utmoſt care and diligence, and have performed more than were incumbent on me. Thoſe perſons who talked and wrote about me are fruſtrated in their notions concerning me, which I hope, when it pleaſes God that I arrive with you, to give a clear demonſtration of.

Bengall, Behar, and Oudeiſa (Orixa) Phirmaun.

To all Governors and their Aſſiſtants, Intelligencers, Jageerdars, Phowſdars, Collectors, Guardians of the ways, keepers of paſſages, and Zemeendars, that are at preſent, or hereafter may

may come in the provinces of Bengall, Behar, and Oudeiſa (Orixa) at the port of Hugly, &c. ports in the provinces aforeſaid; by theſe preſents, Know yee, from the favour of the Imperial Majeſty, That at this time of conqueſt, and in this flouriſhing reign, Mr. John Surman and Coja Surhaud, gomaſhtahs (factors) of the Engliſh Company, hath humbly preſented their petition; ſetting forth, that according to Sultan Azzem Sha Behauder, his and former ſunnods, they are free of cuſtoms, throughout the whole conquered Empire, the port of Surat excepted; and that they do annually pay into the treaſury, at the port of Hugly, a piſhcaſh of three thouſand rupees in lieu of cuſtoms, they hope that according to the tenor of former ſunnods, they may be favoured with a gracious phirmaun confirming them. Commanded and ordered, That all their mercantile affairs, together with their gomaſhtahs (factors) have free liberty in all Subaſhips to paſs and repaſs to and fro, either by land or water, in any port or diſtrict, throughout the ſeveral provinces abovefaid, and know they are cuſtom free, that they have full power and liberty to buy and ſell, at their will and pleaſure, and that there yearly be received into the treaſury a piſhcaſh of three thouſand rupees, as have been cuſtomary heretofore; that, if in any place, or at any time, robberies are committed on their goods, they be aſſiſted in the getting of them again; that the robbers be brought to juſtice, and the goods delivered to the proprietors of them, in whatſoever place they have a mind to ſettle a factory, fairly to buy and ſell goods in, they have liberty, and be aſſiſted; that on whomſoever merchants, weavers, &c. they have any demands on whatſoever account, let them be aided, and their debtors brought to come to a true and fair account, and be made to give their gomaſhtahs (factors) their right and juſt demands; that no perſon be ſuffered to injure and moleſt their gomaſhtahs (factors) wrongfully and unjuſtly; and for cuſtoms on hired boats (Cutbarrah) &c. belonging to them, that they be not in any manner moleſted or obſtructed. They further petition, that if the Petty Duans of Subahſhips demand ſight of the original ſunnods and perwannas, under the ſeals of the Duans and Subas, the original ſunnods cannot poſſibly be produced in any place without a great deal of difficulty, they deſire that a copy, from under the ſeal of the chief Cauzee, be ſufficient ſight of the original ſunnods not being demanded, nor they forced to take ſunnods and perwannas under the Duan and Suba, their ſeals; that the renting of Calcutta, Sootuluta, and Govindpore, in the Purgana of Ameirabaud, &c. in Bengal, were formerly granted them, and bought by conſent from the Zemeendars of them, and are now in Company's poſſeſſion, for which they yearly pay the ſum R^{s} 1195. 6^{a}; that thirty-eight towns more, amounting to R^{s} 8121. 8. adjoining to the aforeſaid towns, which they hope the renting of may be granted and added to the others they are already poſſeſſed of; that they pay annually the ſame amount of them; commanded the copy under the ſeal of the chief Cauzee be regarded; that the old towns formerly bought by them, remain in their hands as heretofore; and that they have the renting of the adjacent towns petitioned for, which they are to buy from the reſpective owners of them, and that the Duan Suba give permiſſion: They ſtill petition, That from the reign of Aurengzeb, Madraſs coin were received into the treaſuries of Subahſhips for under value, and are ſtill; notwithſtanding they are full as valuable as Surat rupees are, whereby they are great loſers; they hope the Imperial order may be given for them to be received into the treaſuries as Surat rupees are, in caſe they are as good; that any perſon, being ſervant to the Company, elopi g from them, from whom debts and accounts are due, they deſire, that whoſoever ſo deſerts, be delivered back to the chief of their factory; that their gomaſhtahs and ſervants are moleſted and troubled for Phowſderry (abvabmumnua), &c. Impoſitions which they requeſt they may be exempted from. Commanded and ordered, that from the 5th year of this bleſſed reign, if Madraſs rupees are made the ſame goodneſs with Surat ſiccas, there be no diſcount on them; That whoſoever of the Company's ſervants, being debtors, deſert them, ſeize them, and deliver them to the chief of their factory; that they be not moleſted for Phirmauſhs (abvabmumnua), &c. impoſitions. They petition, That in Bengal, Behar, and Oudeiſa (Orixa) the Company have factories, and that in other places they likewiſe deſign to ſettle factories; they accordingly deſire, that in any place where they have a mind to ſettle factories, they may have forty begaes of ground given for the ſame; that it often happens ſhips at ſea meet with tempeſtuous winds, and are forced into ports, and are ſometimes drove aſhore and wrecked, the Governors of ports injuriouſly ſeize on the cargoes of them, and in ſome places demand a quarter part ſalvage; that on the iſland of Bombay, belonging to the Engliſh, European ſiccas are current; they requeſt, that, according to the cuſtom of Madraſs, they may at Bombay coin ſiccas. Commanded and ordered, that according to cuſtom of their factories in other Subahſhips, execute theſe people, having their factories in ſeveral parts of the kingdom, and commerce to the place of the royal reſidence, and have obtained very favourable Phirmauns cuſtom free; let there be particular care taken, that there be duly aſſiſtance given them about goods and wrecks, on all occaſions, on the iſland of Bombay; let there be the glorious ſtamp on the ſiccas coined there, paſſing them current, as all other ſiccas throughout the whole Empire. To all theſe tender punctual obedience, obſerving and acting purſuant to the tenor of this gracious Phirmaun, and not contrary in any reſpect whatſoever, nor demand yearly new ſunnods. Regard this particularly well.—Written the 27th of the moon Mohunum, in the 5th year of this glorious and ever happy reign.

Hyderabaud (Madraſs) Phirmaun.

To all Governors, and their Aſſiſtants, Intelligencers, Jageerdars, Phowſdars, Collectors, and Zemeendars, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come, in the province of Hyderabaud. Know yee, by theſe preſents, from the favour of the Imperial throne, and that at this time of

conqueſt, and in this flouriſhing reign, Mr. John Surman, and Coja Surhaud, Gomaſhtas (factors) of the Engliſh Company, hath humbly preſented their petition; ſetting forth, that throughout the ports of Hyderabaud, the Company are cuſtom free, and at (Madraſs) Chinapatam, they pay Pag^{s} 1200 annually in the treaſury; they deſire a gracious Phirmaun, that it may be at that port as cuſtomary heretofore; and it accordingly appears, by the King's books, that they do punctually pay the aboveſaid ſum, at Chinapatam, into the treaſury. Commanded and ordered, that it be according to ancient cuſtom: Their Gomaſhtahs (factors) going backwards and forwards with their goods and neceſſaries, throughout all the ports of all Subaſhips, either by land or water, know, they are cuſtom free; buying and ſelling, at their will and pleaſure, let them receive no obſtructions; that Pag^{s} 1200 at Chinapatam, be received as cuſtomary heretofore, and that they be called upon for no other account whatſoever; if at any time, and in any place, it ſhould happen any thing belonging to the Engl ſh be ſtole, thoroughly aſſiſt in the regetting of it, puniſhing the robbers according to juſtice, return the goods to the right owners of them. In whatſoever place they have a mind to ſettle factory to buy and ſell goods, in that they have free liberty, and be aſſiſted upon all fair and juſt accounts. On whoever merchants, &c. they have any demands, upon whatſoever account, they be aſſiſted, and their debtors be brought to come to a true and fair account; and that they be made to give their Gomaſhtahs their juſt demands, not ſuffering any perſon to moleſt or hurt their Gomaſhtahs wrongfully. They further petition, that at the war of Chingee, for aſſiſting in ſending cannon and proviſions, &c. to the King's camp, as a reward for their ſervice, Aurengzeb gave the Company five towns, Trivatore, &c. which remained in their poſſeſſion for a long time; that it is now three years ſince the King's Mutſuddys (officers) there has ſeized on them. In this glorious reign, that they aſſiſted againſt the Pretender Jahun Dar Sha, in acting in Hugly purſuant to the Imperial orders, in helping Zeaudecaun with lead, powder, &c. and uſing their utmoſt endeavours, they hope they may be returned to their poſſeſſions as formerly. Commanded and ordered, that as in the time of Aurengzeb, poſſeſſion be given them. They alſo petition, that the Company have a ſettlement at the port of Vizagapatam, for which and four towns more, near their factory, they pay annually R^{s} 4862. into the treaſury of Sicca Cool, according to former rights, and among the towns aforeſaid, Purwanna and Wooda Punda, two villages, which pay R^{s} 900. yearly rent, being too far from the factory, they deſire may be returned. Commanded and ordered, that of the five towns, thoſe which they deſire to relinquiſh be taken back, and that the other three remain in their poſſeſſion as heretofore. They likewiſe petition, that the petty duans of ſubaſhips demand ſight of the original ſunnods and perwannahs, under the ſeals of the Duans and Subas; that the original ſunnods cannot poſſible be produced in every place without a great deal of difficulty; they humbly requeſt, that a copy from under the ſeal of the Cauzee be ſufficient, and no demands made for ſight of the original ſunnods, nor the Duan and Suba inſiſt, and give another thereby; that in the iſland of Bombay, belonging to the Engliſh, European ſiccas are current; they hope from the Imperial favour, that, according to the cuſtom of Chinapatam, there be coined, at Bombay, ſiccas; that ſervants belonging to the Company, becoming debtors, deſerting from them, deſire that they who deſerts, be returned back to the chief of their factory; that the Gomaſhtahs, and dealers of the Company, are much troubled for Phowſdaries (abvabmumnua) &c. impoſitions which they requeſt may be repealed. Commanded and ordered, that a copy from under the ſeal of the chief Cauzee be ſufficient; that on the iſland of Bombay, ſiccas coined according to thoſe of the empire paſs current throughout the whole empire, as all other ſiccas do; that whoſoever of the Company's ſervants, being debtors, want to elope, ſeize them and deliver them back to the chief of their factory, and for that which is forbidden, phowſdarry (abvabmumnua) they be not moleſted. They petition, that Chinapatam ſiccas are received into treaſuries of all Subaſhips with ſome diſcount on them, notwithſtanding they are the ſame ſilver as thoſe coined at the port of Surat, by which they ſuſtain great loſs; they hope, if in caſe they are of the ſame goodneſs as thoſe of Surat, orders may be given, that they be received into the treaſuries as Surat, &c. ſiccas are; that in Bengal, Bahar, Oudeiſa, at Madraſs, Vizagapatam, &c. the Company have factories; and that in other places they may likewiſe ſettle factories; they hope, that in whatever place they do ſettle a factory, they may have forty begaes of ground given them for the ſame; that ſhips at ſea happening to meet with tempeſtuous winds, are ſometimes obliged to run aſhore, and are wrecked, the Governors of ports unjuſtly ſeize on the cargoes of them, and in ſome places demand a quarter part ſalvage. Commanded and ordered, That from the 5th year of this glorious reign, if Madraſs ſiccas are made the ſame fineneſs and goodneſs with Surat ſiccas, there be no diſcount on them; that they have according to cuſtom of their factories, in other Subahſhips. Theſe people, having their factories in ſeveral ports of the kingdom, and commerce to the place of the royal reſidence, and have obtained favourable Phirmauns, cuſtom free; take particular care, that there be due aſſiſtance given them about goods and wrecks. On all occaſions render punctual obedience to all theſe orders contained in this gracious Phirmaun, forbearing to act contrary, and not demand annually new Sunnods. Regard this particularly well. Written the 2d of the moon Jaffar, in the 5 year of this gracious reign.

Ahomed Abaud (Surat) Phirmaun.

To all Governors and their Aſſiſtants, Intelligencers; to all Jageerdars, Phowſdars, Collectors, Guardians of the ways, Keepers of paſſages, and Zemeendars, that are at preſent, or hereafter may come in the province of Ahomed Abaud, at the fortunate port of Surat, at Coyett, Be in hopes of the Imperial favour, and know yee, by theſe preſents, that at this time of conqueſt,

and

and in this victorious reign, Mr. John Surman and Coja Surhaud, Gomaſhtahs (Factors) of the Engliſh, hath preſented their petition; ſetting forth, That on the goods of Engliſhmen, cuſtoms throughout the whole conquered Empire, excepting at the port of Surat, are pardoned at the ſaid port; in the reign of Sha Jahaun they paid 2 per cent. cuſtom, and in the time of Aurengzeb 3 ½ per cent. cuſtom was ſettled, being excuſed in all other places; and in the reign of Sha Aalum 2 ½ per cent. cuſtom was, and is at preſent, paid there, by reaſon of the oppreſſion of the Mutſuddys there, they have been forced, for theſe three years, to withdraw their factory from that place. In the provinces of Behar and Oudeiſa, their nation pay no cuſtom at the port of Hugly; in the ſubahſhip of Bengal they annually pay a piſhcaſh of three thouſand rupees, in lieu of cuſtom; they hope to enjoy the privilege according to the cuſtom of other ports, at the port of Surat, and pay a yearly piſhcaſh inſtead of cuſtom; they are willing and have agreed to pay annually a piſhcaſh of ten thouſand rupees. Commanded and ordered, That ſince they aſſent to pay a yearly piſhcaſh of ten thouſand rupees at the port of Surat, receive it, and let them be called upon for no other account whatſoever; their Gomaſhtahs (Factors) going backwards and forwards with their goods and neceſſaries throughout all the ports of this ſubahſhip, either by land or water, Know, they are cuſtom free, buying and ſelling at their will and pleaſure, let them receive no obſtructions. If at any time, and in any place, it ſhould happen that any goods belonging to them ſhould be loſt, thoroughly aſſiſt in the getting of them, puniſhing the rogues according to juſtice, and the goods return to the right owners of them; in whatſoever place they have a mind to ſettle a factory, to buy and ſell goods, in that they have free liberty, and be aſſiſted upon all fair and juſt accounts. On whoever merchants and others they have any demands, upon whatſoever account, they be aſſiſted, and their debtors be brought to come to a true and fair account, and be made to give the Engliſh their juſt demands, not ſuffering any perſon to moleſt and injure their Gomaſhtahs wrongfully. They further petition, that the Petty Duans of ſubahſhips, demand ſight of their original ſunnods and perwannas, under the ſeals of the Duans and Subas; that the original ſunnods cannot poſſibly be produced in every place without a great deal of difficulty; they requeſt, that a copy from under the ſeal of the Cauzee be ſufficient, and no demands made for ſight of the original ſunnods, nor the Duans and Subahs inſiſt to give another thereby; that in the iſland of Bombay, belonging to the Engliſh, European coin are current; they hope from the imperial favour, that according to the cuſtom of Madraſs, there may be coined at Bombay, ſiccas; that ſervants belonging to the Company, becoming debtors, deſerting from them, deſire that they who ſo deſerts, be returned back to the chief of their factory; that the Gomaſhtahs and dealers of the Company are much troubled for Phowſdarry (abvabmumnua), &c. Impoſitions which they requeſt may be repealed. Commanded and ordered, that a copy, under the chief Cauzee's ſeal be ſufficient; that on the iſland of Bombay ſiccas coined, according to thoſe of this kingdom, paſs current throughout the whole Empire, as all other ſiccas do; that whoever of the Company's ſervants, becoming debtors, want to elope, ſeize them and deliver them back to the chief of their factory; and for that which is forbidden (abvabmumnua) Phowſdarry, &c. they be not moleſted. They alſo petition, that in Bengal, Behar, and Oudeiſa, the Company have factories; and that in other places they likewiſe deſign to ſettle factories; they hope that in any place where they ſettle a factory, 40 begaes of ground may be given them for the ſame; ſhips at ſea happening to meet with tempeſtuous winds, are ſometimes obliged to run aſhore and are wrecked, the Governors of ports injuriouſly ſeize on the goods of them, demanding in ſome places a quarter part ſalvage. Commanded and ordered, that they have according to cuſtom of their factories in other Subahſhips; theſe people having their factories in ſeveral ports of the kingdom, and commerce to the place of the royal reſidence, and have obtained favourable Phirmauns cuſtom free; take particular care, that there be due aſſiſtance given them concerning goods and wrecks on all occaſions. To all theſe orders render obedience, forbearing to act contrary to this gracious phirmaun, nor every year demand new ſunnods. Regard this particularly well.—Written the 4th of the moon Suffar, in the 5th year of this gracious reign.

A letter from Coja Surhaud, dated the third of the moon Jamadul Ovul, the 6 year of his Majeſty's reign, to the honourable Robert Hedges, Eſquire, Preſident, &c. Council. Received 7th April, 1717.

The 28th of the moon Mohurrum, I ſent you by my own Coſſids foul copies of three phirmauns, and 30 perwannas, which was not then atteſted by the Cauzee; and under date of the 23d of the moon Rubbeellovull, copies of three phirmauns, which only wanted the Vizier's ſeal to be affixed on them, to have perfected them without the Cauzee's ſeal; and alſo copies of 25 perwannas, completed and aſſiſted by the Cauzee, were incloſed and forwarded to you by my own Coſſids.

The 3 phirmauns having the Vizier's ſeal put on them, has entirely perfected them. I have juſt now received them, copies whereof, under the Cauzee of this place, his ſeal, are this inſtant forwarded to you, which I truſt will come ſafe to your hands, and I congratulate the Company on this occaſion. Thanks be to God, the Company's buſineſs is all quite finiſhed according to their deſire.

The great care and trouble which I have taken in this negotiation to fulfill my promiſe to you is inexpreſſible; from the time of Tamerlane to this inſtant, no nation have been able to procure ſuch a Phirmaun; three or four times more than what you deſired are obtained; what you promiſed for my gratuity, if you ſhould give me three or four times as much more, it would not recompence

compence my ſervice and care. Now yee may greatly rejoice, ſince you have every thing to your content; and when I arrive with you, glad me that I may forget the great fatigue and trouble which I have undergone in this negotiation. The Dutch, and many embaſſies which went before, have ſpent each from 15 to 25 lack of rupees, and not one amongſt them all have procured the tenth part of what I have. I have acted in this affair with the utmoſt care and induſtry, and have done what I knew through means of my conſorts here. I have coſt near a lack of rupees; and all the baſeneſs which has been done by thoſe people, I have bore with patience, becauſe the Company's affairs elſe would have been ruined. By God's bleſſing, all our buſineſs is happily ended, and I hope, God willing, in 15 days more, to obtain leave, and be on my way towards you; reſt with ſatisfaction, and after my arrival, what more I have to relate will be made known to you; ſome unfair dealings, which have been done within theſe three years, contrary to our promiſe, which are not requiſite that I write you now, but when I come with you I muſt inform you.

N° 26. Copy of a Husbullhookhum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſury Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, faithful friend; as followeth:

May the honourable Aſker Caun be always in ſafety.

At this inſtant, Mr. John Surman, Coja Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through the interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that at Azzeemabaud (Patna) in the province of Behar, it is ſometime ſince the Engliſh factory has been in a hired houſe; they hope for the houſe of Meermuzzuffer, which is confiſcated to the King, to be granted for their reſidence. It is commanded that you be writ to, if that houſe be confiſcated, that you let them have it to live in; but at the time of repairing it they are not to build bullworks, or any thing like fortifications, for that is forbidden by the King; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do act purſuant to the great command. Regard this well.—Written on the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 27. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, faithful friend; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys (officers) in government, that at preſent are, and hereafter ſhall come throughout the provinces of the conquered empire. Know yee, by theſe preſents, that at this time, Mr. John Surman, Coja Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath, through the interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; requeſting, that a gracious order may be given you, commanding, that in caſe any of the Company's ſervants become debtors, and elope from them, that you ſeize and deliver them back to the chief of the factory. It is accordingly commanded; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that you do, purſuant to the great command, in caſe any of the Company's ſervants become debtors, and deſert, ſeize and deliver them back to the chief of the factory. Regard this punctually. Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge, the 5 year of his Majeſty's reign.

N° 28. Copy of a Husbullhookum, under the ſeal of the (Cootbullmoolk) prime miniſter; the Lord high treaſurer Syad Abidulla Caun; the valiant, the victorious in battle, General of the horſe, true to his friends; as followeth:

To all Mutſuddys (officers) in government, that at preſent are, or hereafter ſhall be, in the province of Bengall; Know yee, by theſe preſents, that at this time Mr. John Surman, Coja Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenſon, for and in behalf of the Engliſh Company, hath through the interceſſions of the high miniſters, preſented their petition to his Imperial Majeſty; ſetting forth, that in the town of Calcutta, in the Purgunna of Ameirabaud, in the province aforeſaid, the Engliſh have their factory, the farming of Calcutta, &c. Three towns they have had for a long time, the rent of which annually being R^{s} 1195. is duly paid by them; thirty-eight towns more, adjacent to the aforeſaid towns, the rent of which amounting to R^{s} 8121. 8^{4}, they hope to have the farming of them, and they will annually pay the rent thereof according to the ſtatives in the King's books; they likewiſe deſire to have Calcutta called after his Majeſty's great name; and the other towns to be taken from their ſeveral purgunnys, and united into one purgunna. It is commanded that the farming of the towns bought formerly remain in their poſſeſſion as heretofore, and that they have the liberty of farming the other towns petitioned for; if, according to former cuſtoms, they buy them by the aſſent of the reſpective owners of them, then you are to give permiſſion; for which reaſon this Huſbullhookum is iſſued out; that you let them have the farming of the former villages and the preſent, purſuant to the great command, according to the liſt on the back of this, and take the yearly rent of them into the treaſury. Regard this punctually.—Written the 9th of the moon Zeelhedge the 5th year of his Majeſty's glorious and ever happy reign.

Liſt on the back, of villages in the Purgana of Calcutta, &c. in the ſubaſhip of Bengal, according to the petition of John Surman, Cojah Surhaud, and Mr. Stevenſon, the renting of which being granted to the Engliſh Company, and the towns which they formerly

formerly bought remaining according to ancient cuſtom: The other villages petitioned for, if by the aſſent of the owners they do buy them according to ancient cuſtom, give permiſſion, and ſettle. The whole amount, is R$ 9316. 14. 3. according to the above named their petition; viz.

In the Purganna, or diviſion of Calcutta — —	R$	2151	13 3	In the Purganna, or diviſion of Manpore — —		223	7 6
In the Purganna, or diviſion of Ameirabaud — —		1810	9 6	In the Purganna, or diviſion of Nudee — —		172	13 6
In the Purganna, or diviſion of Burro — —		869	15 3	In the Purganna, or diviſion of Picaun — —		4078	3 3
				41 Towns			

Note, That the account of theſe towns are not at court; therefore according to the account of the Suba Books, more or leſs, ſettle.

According to former cuſtom, the towns of Calcutta, &c. three towns R$ 1195. 6; viz.

In the Purganna of Ameir Abaud Calcutta, &c. R$ 970. 8.; viz. De Calcutta R 468. 9. Sootalutta R$ 500. 15. Govindpore R$ 224. 14. In the Purganna of Picaun.

The preſent R$ 8121. 8. 3.; viz.

In the Purganna, or diviſion of Calcutta — —	R$	2151	13 3	In the Purganna, or diviſion of Nudde — —		172	13 6
In the Purganna, or diviſion of Ameirabaud — —		840	1 6	In the Purganna, or diviſion of Manpore — —		223	7 6
In the Purganna, or diviſion of Burro — —		869	15 3	In the Purganna, or diviſion of Picaun — —		3863	5 3

The particular account of the villages petitioned for at preſent, according to the liſt under the ſeals of the aforenamed perſons, amounting to R$ 8121. 8. 3. towns 38; viz.

Ducconneedaun R$ 426. 9^a; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —	R$	38	8 6
In the Purganna of Picaun —		12	— 3
In the Purganna of Ameirabaud —		376	— -

Beergee R$ 283. 13. 6.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		22	6 3
In the Purganna of Ameirabaub —		45	15 3
In the Purganna of Nudes —		1	14 -
In the Purganna of Picaun —		213	10 -

Baudſurteempore R$ 127. 2. 6.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		11	7 3
In the Purganna of Ameirabaud —		20	8 -
In the Purganna of Picaun —		95	3 6

Sulca R$ 277. 11. 3.; viz.

In the Purganna of Burro —		61	11 -
In the Purganna of Picaun —		216	— 3

Hauroo R$ 383. 2. 9.; viz.

In the Purganna of Burro —		237	5 6
In the Purganna of Picaun —		145	13 3

Cunde R$ 138. 5. 3.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		8	7 -
In the Purganna of Burro —		129	14 3

Ramkiſſenpore R$ 169. 14. 9.; viz.

In the Purganna of Burro —		89	3 9
In the Purganna of Picaun —		80	11 -

Nauta R$ 580. 14. 9.; viz.

In the Purganna of Burro —		351	13 -
In the Purganna of Picaun —		229	1 9

Billgajaw R$ 318^a. 9^p;

In the Purganna of Picaun —		13	10 -
In the Purganna of Calcutta —		304	6 9

Oltadondee R$ 314. 14.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		194	1 6
In the Purganna of Picaun —		120	12 9

Congarracoſla R$ 408. 6. 3.; viz.

In the Purganna of Nudee —		170	15 3
In the Purganna of Picaun —		37	7 -

Meerzapore R$ 172. 13. 6.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		57	15 9
In D^o Picaun — —		115	13 9

Cullea R$ 572. 10. 6.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		127	6 9
In the Purganna of Picaun —		445	3 9

Buggaree R$ 228. 13. 3.; viz.

In the Purganna of Picaun —		166	1 9
In the Purganna of Calcutta —		62	11 0

Sunda R$ 648. 9. 3. viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		62	— 3
In the Purganna of Picaun —		586	9 -

Dulunda R$ 306. 7. 6.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		111	6 6
D^o — D^o Picaun —		195	1 -

Tupſanda R$ 290. 10. 9.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		73	8 -
D^o — D^o Picaun —		217	2 9

Mullea Bulcha R$ 206. 14. 6; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		31	11 -
In the Purganna of Picaun —		175	3 6

Currangee R$ 89 11. 6.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		14	13 6
D^o — D^o Picaun —		74	14 -

Cullemba R$ 383 8.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		270	3 3
D^o — D^o Picaun —		113	4 9

Cundullpaudee R$ 101. 13. 6.; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		31	9 3
D^o — D^o Picaun —		70	4 3

Amulla R$ 229. 2. 6; viz.

In the Purganna of Calcutta —		61	9 9
D^o — D^o Picaun —		167	8 9
Duccaneepakpadee, in the Purganna Ameirabaud — —		145	2 3
Hogulcundee, in the Purgunna of Picaun — —		137	11 3
Semlee, in the Purganna of Manpore		81	15 6
Muccaunda, in D^o — D^o		118	12 9
Chapada, in the Purganna of Calcutta		63	10 9
Baugharee, in D^o — D^o		49	8 9
Arpoolee, in the Purganna Manpore		22	11 9
Sayalta, in the Purganna of Calcutta		118	9 9
Baudfunda, D^o D^o —		40	8 -
Seepore, in D^o D^o —		41	6 6
Saidguchee, in D^o D^o —		212	3 -
Cuſtanga, in D^o D^o —		37	14 -
Puttera, in D^o Picaun —		101	1 6
Bauduchneedaun, D^o —		125	8 3
Ballcallcutta, in Calcutta —		114	3 6
Cheatpore, in Purganna Ameirabaud		252	8 -

Nº 29. Directed to Acram Caun, Duan of Bengal, the ſame as the foregoing, word for word, with the liſt of the towns on back as the foregoing.

Perwanna under Jaffar Cawn's ſeal, obtained by Mr. Samuel Feake, at Coſſimbazar. Received 20th of July 1717; as followeth:

May his Highneſs, the ſupport of Nobles, the honourable Caun Maudee Allee Caun, be always ſurrounded with his Majeſty's favour.

The Vakeel of the Engliſh Company has repreſented, that Mahomed Sallah Droga, of the Cherabaf Conna, does unjuſtly moleſt Succada, Gomaſhtah of his maſter, who reſides at Jahaungeernagur (Dacca); for which reaſon this is wrote; that if it be true, you bid the aforeſaid Droga forbear injuriouſly oppreſſing the Engliſh Gomaſhtahs: But if the ſtory ſhould be otherwiſe, to you write it. The 3d of Shabaun, the 6 year of his Majeſty's reign.

Duſtkhut (ſign'd.)

To theſe people favour and encouragement ſhould be ſhewn, becauſe they are great merchants, and are exalted by their eminent ſervices.

Perwanna under Jaffar Caun's ſeal, obtained by Mr. Feake, &c. at Coſſimbazar. Received in Fort William the 5th of October, 1717; as followeth:

May his Highneſs, the ſupport of Nobles, Sultan Huſſein Caun, be always ſurrounded with his Majeſty's favour.

The Engliſh Company's Vakeel has repreſented, that his Maſter's Gomaſhtah, who have reſided at Mahanundapore, (ſubordinate to Rajmahl) for a long while to buy and ſell goods; that your deputy have unjuſtly extorted 50 R' from ſaid Gomaſhtah; for which this is wrote; that if it be true, you make the ſaid rupees to be refunded to the ſaid Gomaſhtah, and take his ſatisfactory certificate and ſend it hither: Do you likewiſe give particular orders, that nobody moleſt ſaid Gomaſhtah injuriouſly, that he may remain there, carrying on with content his buſineſs. Regard this well. Written the 26th of the moon Ramazan, the 6 year of his Majeſty's reign.

Tranſlate of King Furruckſeer, his Phirmaun, for the honourable Robert Hedges, Eſquire, Preſident in Bengal, in anſwer to the petition ſent by Mr. John Surman, &c.

The moſt worthy amongſt your Peers, the great amongſt your brothers, and worthy of my favour, Robert Hedges, Preſident for the Engliſh Company: Be always in hopes of kingly favour; and know at this time of conqueſt, and being conqueror, the petition that deſired a Phirmaun for the currency of trade for the Engliſh, and pardon of cuſtoms, according to ancient uſage, with the piſhcaſh, accompanied by Engliſh Surman and Serad Armenian to the holy place that carries the enſigns of miracles, whoſe height approaches the ſkies, is received, and has paſt the royal view, and the piſhcaſh that you ſent has been preſented before his ſacred Majeſty, and pleaſed him, with his royal acceptance after the moſt holy place, being acquainted of your entire ſincerity, and ſtrict obedience, out of his Majeſty's moſt particular favours, have granted Phirmauns, conformable to the petition of the above Serad, for the currency of the Company's trade, and pardon of cuſtoms, purſuant to former rule; you ought, in a high and grateful degree, to acknowledge this great royal favour, with a ſerious temper, and perfect ſatisfaction; go on in your buſineſs and merchandize, your upright behaviour and perfect obedience will be a means of your future protection. The 19th day of the moon Jamadullacur; wrote in the ſix year of our glorious reign.

The Vizier's title, which is wrote on the back of the four Phirmauns.

Under the protection of the mountain of vaſt riches, in whom the King puts his confidence; Chief of the Nobles of the greateſt port; conſpicuous among the great; the great Protector of the country, and its riches; the Opener of the way to fortune and riches; Maſter of the ſword and pen; the Light and Exalter of the ſpear and order; Vizier of a true judgment unalterable; Chief of the country; Prime Miniſter, in whoſe hands are all power; the Lord High Treaſurer, the Valiant, the Victorious in battle, faithful Friend; and the Mirrour of Viziers.

Copy of a Husbullhookum.

An account of the Europeans at Hughly, as repreſented by the government of Hughly to Muxadavad, viz.

Its cuſtomary, upon every new King's acceſſion to the throne, and upon every Subah's and Duan's acceſſion, for the Europeans to get new Phirmaunds and new Perwannahs to carry on their buſineſs, and to give a preſent; for which reaſon I ſend an account of the nation, that as it is now the time for diſpatching their ſhips, if they are dealt hard with, it will be for the advantage of the King and Subah; viz.

The Engliſh, in Aurengzeb's time, obtained a Phirmaund, exempting them from all cuſtoms, in lieu of which a piſhcaſh of three thouſand rupees was ſettled, which they annually pay into the treaſury at Hughly, ſince which they have not had either Phirmaund or Perwannah; they carry on their mercantile affairs in an unjuſt and unprecedented manner, by which the King's trea-

treaſury is leſſened; the Phirmaund they procured in Phiruchſeer's time has never been ſeen, nor they ever had a Perwannah from the Nabob for carrying on their buſineſs.

The Dutch, in Aurengzeb's time, obtained a phirmaund, granting leave to trade, paying 3 ½ per cent into the treaſury at Hughly. In Shaw Allum's time they obtained a phirmaund for paying 2 ½ per cent. cuſtoms, and they, conformable to which they obtained a perwannah from Jaffier Cawn, when he was called Muſſud Coolie Cawn, by virtue of which they now carry on their buſineſs; beſides this, they have had no other new perwannah, nor made any preſent to the King or Subah.

The French, in Aurengzeb's time, obtained a Phirmaund, alſo the Subah and Duan's perwannah, and according to the Dutch, they paid four per cent. cuſtoms; and when the Dutch got the cuſtoms ſettled at 2 ½ per cent. they likewiſe got a perwannah from the Nabob to pay the ſame; beſides which, they had no new Perwannah, nor made any preſent to the King or Subah: The Oſtenders have no Phirmaund; they have obtained Jaffer Cawn's Perwannah, by virtue of which they carry on their buſineſs.

The Armenians uſed formerly to pay 5 per cent. cuſtoms; in Shaw Allum's time they obtained a phirmaund for paying no more than 3 ½ per cent. and according to which phirmaund they have Jaffier Cawn's perwannah, and now they carry on their buſineſs in Calcutta under the Engliſh protection, and thoſe of them that wants a perwannah for Suratt, comes tō Hughly and gets one, by which the King is a great ſufferer.

It has not been cuſtomary for Europeans to trade in ſalt; this year ſome of the Engliſh have ſent large quantities of ſalt to Patna, without paying the cuſtom: it has always been cuſtomary for the weavers to pay 5 per cent. on all photaes, before they ſell any to Europeans, and now the Engliſh, contrary to cuſtom, in the adjacent towns of Calcutta, and in Burdwan, buy photaes, and carry them, with their duſticks, without paying the uſual cuſtoms; and upon all goods that are bought and ſold in Calcutta, they collect a duty, by which the King is a great ſufferer.

It has not been cuſtomary for the Europeans to traffick in grain, &c. eatables they uſed to have allowed them (by leave from hence) juſt a ſufficient quantity for their own food; and the Engliſh now buys grain in every place, and tranſports it on board their ſhips, by way of merchandize, by which the King is a great ſufferer, and grain is made dear and ſcarce in this country.

All goods imported formerly by Europeans, uſed to be ſold to the Patna merchants, &c. who uſed to pay the cuſtoms thereon; and for theſe ſeveral years the Engliſh ſend what goods they import to Patna, &c. Aurungs, by which there is no cuſtom paid; here they pay a piſhcaſh of rupees three thouſand for the Company and other Engliſhmen, by which the King is a great ſufferer; and the Dutch, ever ſince they have had the cuſtom ſett'ed at 2 ½ per cent. ſend their goods to Patna and other places, and do not ſell to thoſe who uſed to pay the cuſtom here, by which the King is a great ſufferer.

Tranſcribed per T. Fenwick.

Examined with A. Dawſon.

Copy of a Duſtuck, under the ſeal of Commordee Caune, grand Vizier, directed to all phowſdars, guardians of the roads, keepers of paſſages, and Zemindar, in the provinces of Bengal, Beharr, and Orixa.

Know ye, that the Engliſh Company are free of cuſtoms, purſuant to the tenor of the royal phirmaund, in lieu of which they pay an annual piſhcaſh of three thouſand rupees into the treaſury, at the port of Hughly; and every year, their boats, loaden with goods, do paſs and repaſs throughout the aforementioned provinces; for which reaſon this is wrote, that they be not troubled or moleſted for Raudary, &c. but on the contrary, that you paſs them through your ſeveral diſtricts in ſafety. The 27th Shaubaun, the 9th of his Majeſty's reign.

Tranſcribed per A. Dawſon.

Examined with Sol[a] Margas.

Copy of a Huſbullhookum, under the ſeal of Commordudee Caune, Vizier, directed to all Mutſudys preſent and to come, in the provinces of Bengal, Beharr, and Orixa.

Know ye, that the Engliſh Company's Vaqueel has preſented a petition; ſetting forth, That his maſters have a Phirmaund, exempting them from all cuſtoms, in lieu of which they annually pay into the treaſury at Hughly a piſhcaſh of three thouſand rupees: That the Subah and Duan's people, in every Subahſhip, and Phouſdars, &c. on the roads, moleſt and trouble them, contrary to the tenor of the royal Phirmaund: He is in hopes of obtaining a Huſbullhookum, confirming their being free of cuſtoms, purſuant to the royal Phirmaund. It appears by the books, that in lieu of thirty thouſand rupees, which they pay into the treaſury at the port of Hughly, they are free of all cuſtoms; for which reaſon they have obtained this Huſbullhookum, ordering you to act conformable to the royal Phirmaund, and in no ways to impede or molett them. The 17th of the moon Rajeb, in the 9th year of his Majeſty's ever happy reign.

There are three other Perwannahs or Huſbullhookums, of the ſame tenor as the foregoing, directed to Jalfercaun, Subah of Bengal, and Suffrage Caune, Duan of Bengal, and the third to Aiteram Caun, Duan of Patna.

Tran-

Tranſcribed per W. Davis.
Examined with Sol[a] Margas.

Copy of a Perwannah, under the ſeal of Suffrage Caune, Duan of Bengal, directed to all Mutſuddys, preſent and to come, to all Gomaſtahs of Jaggers, Phowfdars, Zemindars, Collectors, and Recorders, in the Provinces of Bengal and Orixa.

Know ye, that King Furruckſeer's Phirmaund and Perwannahs, granted the Engliſh Company, has been preſented by Mr. Stevenſon, by which it is perceivable, that they pay annually a piſhcaſh of three thouſand rupees in the treaſury at Hughly, beſides which, they are not to be moleſted for any thing more; and that in all places you aſſiſt them in buying and ſelling their goods; in caſe they have any account or demands on any weavers, &c. oblige them to pay their gomaſtahs; and not ſuffer any body to moleſt or impede their gomaſtahs, nor trouble them on account of their own or hired boats for Cutbarah: That whoſoever of the Company's gomaſtahs, being debtors, deſert them, ſeize them, and deliver them to the chiefs of their factories; that they be not moleſted for Phouſdary, &c. (Abobmummua) impoſitions: That in caſe any of their goods or ſhips are drove aſhore, or wrecked, let particular care be taken thereof: That at Calcutta they have a ſettlement, and the renting of Calcutta, &c. Towns in the Purgane of Ameiravad, &c. were formerly granted them, and bought by conſent from the Zemindars of them, and are now in their poſſeſſion: That thirty-eight towns more, amounting to rupees eight thouſand one hundred and twenty-one, and eight annaes, adjoining to the aforeſaid, in caſe they purchaſe them by the conſent of the proprietors, let the Duan put them in poſſeſſion thereof: It appearing by the regiſters of the Duan, that Calcutta, &c. three towns, are in their poſſeſſion, according to former cuſtom, for which they pay yearly rupees one thouſand one hundred and ninety five, and the other thirty-eight towns, which they have not yet bought, neither are in their poſſeſſion; you muſt let Calcutta, &c. three towns, remain in their poſſeſſion as heretofore, and receive the cuſtomary rent thereof; and, according to the tenor of the royal Phirmaund, whereon is wrote on the back of this, do you act in every reſpect, and not contrary. The firſt of the moon Zethedge, in the ninth year of his Majeſty's reign.

Articles of a treaty and agreement, concluded between the Governor and Council of Fort William, on the part of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company, and the Nabob Syef ul Dowla.

On the part of the Company.

We the Governor and Council do engage to ſecure to the Nabob, Syef ul Dowla, the ſubahdarre of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and to ſupport him therein, with the Company's forces, againſt all his enemies.

On the part of the Nabob.

I.

The treaty which my father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his firſt acceſſion to the Nizamut, engaging to regard the honour and reputation of the Company, and of the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my brother, Nabob Najim ul Dowla; the ſame treaties, as far as is conſiſtent with the true ſpirit, intent, and meaning thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciouſly pleaſed to grant unto the Engliſh Eaſt India Company the dewannaſhip of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, as a free gift for ever; and I having an entire confidence in them, and in their ſervants ſettled in this country, that nothing whatever be propoſed or carried into execution by them, derogating from my honour, dignity, intereſt, and the good of my country, do therefore, for the better conducting the affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my honour and intereſt, and that of the Company in the beſt manner, agree, that the protecting the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and the force ſufficient for that purpoſe, be entirely left to their direction and good management, in conſideration of their paying the King, Shaw Allum, by monthly payments, as by treaty agreed on, the ſum of rupees 2,16,666. 10. 9. and to me, Syef ul Dowla, the annual ſtipend of rupees 41,86,131. 9; viz the ſum of rupees 17,78,854. 1. for my houſe, ſervants, and other expences indiſpenſably neceſſary, and the remaining ſum of 24,07,277. 8. for the ſupport of ſuch Sepoys, Peons, and Burgundaſſes, as may be thought proper for my aſwarry only; but on no account ever to exceed that amount.

III. The

III.

The Nabob Minauh Dowla, who was, at the inſtance of the Governor and gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the provinces, and inveſted with the management of affairs, in conjunction with Mah Rajah Doolubram and Juggut Seat, ſhall continue in the ſame poſt, and with the ſame authority; and having a perfect confidence in him, I moreover agree to let him have the diſburſing of the above ſum of 24,07,277. 8. for the purpoſes above mentioned.

This agreement, by the bleſſing of God, I hope will be inviolably obſerved as long as the Engliſh Company's factories continue in Bengal. Dated this 19th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1766.

Wm B. Sumner.
H. Verelſt.
Randh Marriott.
H. Watts.
Claud. Ruſſel.
Wm Alderſey.
Tho. Kelſall.
Charles Floyer.

Articles of a treaty and agreement, concluded between the Governor and Council of fort William, on the part of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company, and the Nabob Syef ul Dowla.

On the part of the Company.

We the Governor and Council do engage to ſecure to the Nabob Syef ul Dowla, the Subahdarree of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and to ſupport him therein, with the Company's forces, againſt all his enemies.

On the part of the Nabob.

I.

The treaty which my father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his firſt acceſſion to the Nizamut, engaging to regard the honour and reputation of the Company, and the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my brother, the Nabob Nazim ul Dowla; the ſame treaties, as far as is conſiſtent with the true ſpirit, intent, and meaning thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciouſly pleaſed to grant unto the Engliſh Eaſt-India Company, the Dewannſhip of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, as a free gift, for ever; and I having an entire confidence in them and in their ſervants ſettled in this country, that nothing will be propoſed, or carried into execution, by them, derogating from my honour and dignity, and the true intereſt and the good of my country, do therefore, for the better conducting the affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my honour and intereſt, and that of the Company, in the beſt manner, agree that the protecting the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and the force ſufficient for that purpoſe, be entirely left to their direction and good management; in conſideration of their paying the King, Shaw Allum, by monthly payments, as by treaty agreed on, the ſum of rupees 2,16,666. 10. 9, and to me, Syef ul Dowla, the annual ſtipend of rupees 41,86,131. 9; viz. the ſum of rupees 17,78,854. 1. for my houſe, ſervants, and other expences indiſpenſably neceſſary, and the remaining ſum of 24,07,277.8. for the ſupport of ſuch Sepoys, Peons, and Burgundaſſes, as may be thought proper for my Aſwarry only; but on no account ever to exceed that amount.

III.

The Nabob, Minaut Dowlah, who was, at the inſtance of the Governor and the Gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the provinces, and inveſted with the management of all affairs, in conjunction with Mharaga Doolubram, and Juggut Seet, ſhall continue in the ſame poſt, and with the ſame authority; and having a perfect confidence in him, I further agree to let him have the diſburſing of the above ſum of 24,07,277. 8. for the purpoſe above-mentioned.

This agreement, by the bleſſing of God, I hope will be inviolably obſerved as long as the Engliſh Company's factories continue in Bengal. Dated the 18th day of May, in the year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix.

(Signed) Governor and Council. (Signed) The Nabob.

Fort William, 28th Nov. 1766.

A true copy.

Wm Alderſey, Secretary.

The Company's Seal.

Signed E. Baber, Secretary.

Articles of a treaty and agreement, between the Governor and Council of Fort William, on the part of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company, and the Nabob Mebarek ul Dowlah.

On the part of the Company.

We, the Governor and Council, do engage to ſecure to the Nabob Mebarek ul Dowlah, the Soubahdarree of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and to ſupport him therein, with the Company's forces, againſt all his enemies.

On the part of the Nabob.

I.

The treaty which my father formerly concluded with the Company, upon his firſt acceſſion to the Nizamut, engaging to regard the honour and reputation of the Company, and of the Governor and Council, as his own; and that entered into with my brothers, the Nabobs Nazim ul Dowlah, and Syef ul Dowlah; the ſame treaties, as far as is conſiſtent with the true ſpirit, intent, and meaning thereof, I do hereby ratify and confirm.

II.

The King has been graciouſly pleaſed to grant unto the Engliſh Eaſt India Company, the Dewannaſhip of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, as a free gift for ever; and I, having an entire confidence in them and in their ſervants ſettled in this country, that nothing whatever be propoſed or carried into execution by them, derogating from my honour, intereſt, and the good of my country, do therefore, for the better conducting the affairs of the Subahdarree, and promoting my honour and intereſt, and that of the Company, in the beſt manner,

Agree, That the protecting the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and the force ſufficient for that purpoſe, be entirely left to their direction and good management, in conſideration of their paying the King, Shaw Allum, by monthly payments, as by treaty agreed on, the ſum of rupees two lacks ſixteen thouſand ſix hundred and ſixty ſix, ten annaes, and nine pice (rupees 2,16,666. 10. 9); and to me, Mebarek ul Dowla, the annual ſtipend of rupees thirty one lacks eighty-one thouſand nine hundred and ninety-one, nine annaes (31,81,991. 9); viz. the ſum of rupees fifteen lacks eighty-one thouſand nine hundred and ninety-one, nine annaes (15,81,991. 9), for my houſe, ſervants, and other expences indiſpenſably neceſſary; and the remaining ſum of rupees ſixteen lacks (rupees 16,00000), for the ſupport of ſuch Sepoys, Peons, and Burgundaſſes, as may be thought proper for my aſwarry only; but on no account ever to exceed that amount.

III.

The Nabob Minauh Dowla, who was, at the inſtance of the Governor and gentlemen of the Council, appointed Naib of the provinces, and inveſted with the management of affairs, in conjunction with Maha Rajah Doolubram and Juggut Seat, ſhall continue in the ſame poſt, and with the ſame authority: And having a perfect confidence in him, I moreover agree to let him have the diſburſing of the above ſum of rupees ſixteen lacks, for the purpoſes above-mentioned.

This agreement, by the bleſſing of God, ſhall be inviolably obſerved for ever.

Dated the 21ſt day of March, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy

Signed —— Richard Beecher, Wm Alderſey, John Cartier, Claud Ruſſell, Charles Floyer, John Reed, Francis Hare, Joſeph Jekyll, Thomas Lane, Richard Barwell.

A true Copy.

W. Wynne, Secretary.

Copy of the tranſlate of a Perwannah from Suja Dowla Cawn, Subah of Bengal, to Governor Deane; as entered after the Fort William conſultation of the 19th January 1731-2

John Deane, Governor: I ſalute you, and am very well pleaſed and ſatisfied with your fair dealing and management, and have not any ill will whatſoever againſt you; you ought to preſerve a good underſtanding with me, and by a good management of yours, go on with your buſineſs as cuſtomary, without doing any thing contrary to law and cuſtom.

Copy of a Perwannah, under the ſeal of the Nabob Sujah Cawn, to Mhamud Aliff; entered after the Fort William conſultation of the 16th July 1736.

Whereas the revenues of the towns of de Calcutta, Soota Lootee, and Govindpoor, in the Purgannas of Ameembad, Calcutta, and Paycawne, in the ſurcar of Sutgom, by grants from the court, and ſeveral Governors of the province, have been appropriated to the Engliſh Company, and been under the direction of their agents, I do now confirm the ſame to them, according to cuſtom; and you are not to moleſt them, or demand more upon any account than is uſual, nor inſiſt upon their renewing this grant yearly; but encourage the improvement of the towns in the manner, therefore, to their ſatisfaction. See that this be obeyed. On the 1ſt of the month Rubbenlaurell, 18th year of the King's reign.

APPENDIX, No. 3.

A Letter to George Pigot, Eſquire, Preſident, &c. of Fort St. George, relating to the Capture of Calcutta; dated 16th July 1756, from the Governor and Council of Bengal.

To the honourable George Pigot, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council at Fort St. George.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Our utmoſt efforts have been employed to diſpatch to you ſooner the intelligence of the capture of Calcutta by the Moors, acting under orders of Serajah Dowla, the new Nabob; which account, we doubt not, will have reached you before this can poſſibly arrive, by means of Patamars from the Shroffs or foreign nations; a true narrative of this unhappy event, will, in our opinion, be faithfully repreſented to you by Mr. Manningham, which we have not here to commit to writing; the above gentleman we depute to your honour, &c. on the United Engliſh Eaſt India Company's behalf, and require from this repreſentation, that you will ſupport us with the whole force you can obtain on your coaſt, military and marine, together with a ſufficient quantity of ammunition, cannon, and all other warlike ſtores, military and marine, which may enable us to re-eſtabliſh ourſelves in this province, which we eſteem of the moſt eſſential conſequence to the Eaſt India Company, and trade of India in general.

It is highly to repreſent to your honour, &c. and that the Engliſh here were eſtabliſhed by patent from the Grand Mogul, under whoſe orders all ſubahs ſhould be dependant; but as your honour, &c. are well acquainted that this province was overcome by Ally Verde Cawn, who maintained his conqueſt by force of arms, ſo was it poſſeſſed by his grandſon, who aſſumed the title of Serajah Dowla; wherefore further to favour our cauſe, and juſt complaints for reſtitution, and right to the privilege granted us by the royal firmaund, we are to requeſt you will, without delay, ſet forth to the Grand Mogul the enormities committed by the preſent Nabob, on a nation which has always paid obedience to the tenor of the firmaund, nor infringed on its privileges; requiring and entreating by his authority to re-eſtabliſh us in all our rights, and that the loſs ſuſtained by the Company and inhabitants of the ſettlement may be made good.

We are at preſent endeavouring to open a correſpondence with the principal men, whom we are informed the Nabob attends to, in hopes to bring on a treaty till we can obtain ſuccour, and that we may in ſome meaſure be relieved from our preſent diſtreſs, being in the utmoſt want of all neceſſaries of life, and ſtrict orders iſſued by the government not to ſupply us with any proviſions: the Dutch and French are alſo prohibited giving us any aſſiſtance; their ſituation appears very precarious; and we are told the French have wrote for a large reinforcement from Pondicherry.

Our determination is to keep the river, until we are informed of your honour, &c.'s reſolutions; and in caſe we are not able to procure any favour from this government, or ſhould be perſecuted ſo by the enemy as to be obliged to ſtand out to ſea, we ſhall proceed to Vizagapatam; this we think proper to mention, as it may be neceſſary that the ſhips in their way to the bay call there for intelligence, which we ſhall lodge there, if we are able to procure any conveyances; for the ingratitude of our immediate ſervants has been ſuch, that we are drove to the neceſſity of doing every individual office for ourſelves; nor have we been able to procure a Pattaman, or a Perſian writer; and it is with the utmoſt difficulty we have hitherto kept together a ſufficient number of Laſcars to work our ſhips, and are daily apprehenſive they will quit us on the firſt occaſion.

We have deſired the gentlemen at Vizagapatam to provide and hold in readineſs what proviſion of every kind they are able to procure, to be put on board the veſſels coming down hither.

We requeſt your honour, &c. to repreſent a full ſtate of all theſe occurrences to Admiral Watſon, the commander in chief of his Majeſty's ſquadron, and entreat his aid and aſſiſtance with the fleet, which we hope may be able to proceed hither.

Monſr. Le Beaume, (who had the command of our advanced batteries, and defended the ſame very gallantly) accompanies Mr. Manningham, and will, in caſe of accident happening to Mr. Manningham, deliver you theſe advices; we eſteeming Monſr. Le Beaume well qualified to give you a circumſtantial detail of our military proceedings, as alſo inform you of the various ſtores we are in want of.

As we imagine the news of this capture will produce very bad conſequences in England, to the honourable Company's affairs, if they receive it without being informed at the ſame time of there being a proſpect of our reſettling in Bengal; we are to requeſt your honour will alter your reſolution of ſending the Delawar to Europe, till you hear the ſucceſs of the force you may be able to aſſiſt us with.

We are, with great reſpect,
Honourable Sir and Sirs,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,
R. D. &c.

Fulta,
16 July 1756.

General Letter dated 15th September 1756.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for affairs of the honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

May it pleaſe your honours,

As it is probable a veſſel may be diſpatched for Europe, by the preſident and council of Fort St. George, or ſome other nation ſettled on the coaſt, and a conveyance offering from hence to Vizagapatam, we think it our duty to give your honours ſome account of an event which muſt be of the utmoſt conſequence to your trade.—It is with the greateſt concern we find ourſelves under the neceſſity of tranſmitting your honours ſuch diſagreeable news; and ſhall beg leave to confine ourſelves to generals for the preſent, referring to a future addreſs for the particulars of this affair.

Upon the receipt of your packet by the Delawar, we thought it neceſſary to put ourſelves in the beſt ſtate of defence we could, and for that purpoſe gave directions to have the line of guns towards the river repaired and ſtrengthened: While we were carrying on this work, a perwannah arrived from the Nabob Serajah Dowla (who had ſucceeded to the government upon the death of Alyver de Cawn) forbidding us to erect any new works, or dig a ditch, which he was informed we were doing. As we eſteemed this a very unreaſonable prohibition, the preſident made the following reply, by the approbation and conſent of the board; That we were not erecting any new fortifications, but only repairing our wharf, which had been much damaged by the freſhes; and he had been miſinformed in regard to the ditch, having dug none ſince the invaſion of the Marattoes, which had been executed at the requeſt of our inhabitants, and with the approbation of Alyver de Cawn himſelf.—That we had received advice of there being a likelihood of a rupture between the French and us, and as they diſregarded the neutrality of the Mogul's dominions in the laſt war, by attacking Madraſs, we were under ſome apprehenſions of their making ſome attempt upon our ſettlement, ſhould there be a declaration of war between the two nations, for which reaſon we thought it neceſſary to be upon our guard, and make our place as defenſible as we could.

The Nabob was at that time encamped at Rajamaul; and the gentlemen at Coſſimbuzar, a few days after, informed us, that he was much incenſed at the foregoing reply, and had ordered their factory to be inveſted with a party of horſemen. This was confirmed in a ſecond letter from them, with advice that a large body of troops were actually placed upon them, and that more were daily expected; for which reaſon they deſired a reinforcement of military and a ſupply of ſtores. Another letter from thoſe gentlemen adviſed us that troops were daily ſtationed on them; that the Nabob himſelf was returning from Rajamaul; that a train of artillery was ordered to be planted againſt them; and that he threatened to attack as ſoon as he arrived.—In this letter they requeſted us to complain againſt Hukumbeg and his duan, for their extortions of late years, as they looked upon them to be the inſtigators of theſe diſturbances.

Upon receipt of this letter, we tranſmitted them a blank araſdaſs, for them to inſert the complaint againſt Hukumbeg and his duan, as they who were on the ſpot muſt be the beſt judges what to write; and directed them to remonſtrate, in that araſdaſs, the injury done us in ſurrounding our factory upon ſo frivolous and unjuſt a pretence; the falſity of which he might be ſatisfied of by ſending a perſon to examine and report the works we were carrying on.—We likewiſe ordered them to endeavour all in their power to accommodate the matter, but on no account to mention the demolition of any works: That in the preſent ſituation of affairs we thought it more adviſeable to ſoothe the Nabob than to provoke him, which ſending up a reinforcement might occaſion; and therefore we thought it beſt to defer the ſupply they had requeſted; and directed them, that in caſe the Nabob carried matters to extremity, and attacked their factory, to make the beſt defence they could till the waters roſe, and then to retreat, with their garriſon, to Calcutta.

Two other letters arrived from Mr. Watts and his council, with intelligence of a further number of troops having ſurrounded their factory, and that the Nabob was daily expected at Muxadavad, when it was imagined they would actually be attacked.—In the former of theſe letters they informed us, that one of the principal zemmadars placed upon them, told their doctor, the Nabob was angry with the Engliſh on no other account than a draw bridge we had built at Perins, and an octagon at Mr. Kelſall's garden, and that if we would deſtroy thoſe works, the forces would be immediately taken off their factory: In conſequence of which information they gave it as their opinion, if the preſident would addreſs the Nabob, and promiſe to demoliſh the draw bridge and octagon, the affair would be accommodated.

This letter was taken into conſideration by the board, and, for many ſtrong reaſons, it was judged more adviſeable to promiſe the demolition of thoſe works, than hazard a rupture with the Nabob, at a juncture when we were ſo little prepared for it.—Accordingly an araſdaſs was wrote to that effect, and triplicates of it forwarded to the chief and council at Coſſimbuzar, for them to get delivered. Theſe letters, Meſſrs. Watts and Collett acquaints us, were not received while the factory remained in our hands.

On the 7th of June we received the diſagreeable news of Coſſimbuzar factory being delivered up to the Nabob, who had made Mr. Watts a priſoner upon his going to viſit him, and forced him to ſign a mutcheulka to the following purport: That we ſhould give no protection

tection to the king's ſubjects; that we ſhould deſtroy any new fortifications we had raiſed, and fill up the new ditch; and that if it could be proved we had granted duſticks to any perſons that were not entitled to them, the loſs ſuſtained by the government, in the cuſtoms, ſhould be made good by the Company. Theſe letters likewiſe informed us, the Nabob intended to march to Calcutta with his whole army, which now amounted to 50,000 men, beſides a very large train of artillery.

Upon the receipt of this intelligence we thought it expedient to put our town (which lay extremely open towards the land) in the beſt poſture of defence we could, by throwing up ſuch outworks as the ſhortneſs of the time would admit of, conformable to plans laid before us for that purpoſe, which was accordingly executed. The militia were likewiſe ſummoned and trained, and every thing in our power prepared to ſuſtain our attack, in caſe the Nabob ſhould be raſh enough to carry matters to that extremity.

The 16th of June the van of his army appeared before the redoubt at Perrin's, and about one in the afternoon attempted to force a paſſage that way into the town, but were bravely repulſed by the party ſtationed there, numbers of them being killed; which made them decamp in the night from thence, and enter the town from the eaſtward; at which quarter it was not in our power to prevent their getting in.—On the morning of the 18th they begun the attack of our lines, and after a very warm fire the whole day from one of our batteries, were obliged to retreat, which made it neceſſary to recall the reſt, that they might not be cut off by the enemy in the rear.

The next morning they commenced a briſk fire upon the fort, which they continued the whole day, and great part of Sunday the 20th; and having gained poſſeſſion of the ſeveral houſes near the factory and church, they deſtroyed a great many officers and private men; who being harraſſed out with continual duty, and the enemy overpowering us with their numbers, the walls were ſcaled on the evening of the 20th, and the fort ſurrendered upon promiſe of their civil treatment of the priſoners.

We have now given your Honours a ſummary relation of the Nabob's proceedings at Coſſimbuzar, his march againſt Calcutta, the attack and capture of that place.

There being ſome country veſſels in the river, ſuch of the inhabitants as could eſcape have been confined in them, and ſuffered the greateſt diſtreſs; moſt of them having loſt every thing they had, and ſcarce ſaved the cloaths on their backs, which has induced us to take the liberty of maintaining them at your Honours expence, which we flatter ourſelves will not be diſapproved of, when it is conſidered how general the calamity has been, and what numbers had it not in their power to ſubſiſt themſelves by any means whatever.

Our remaining here ſo long has been owing to our judging it abſolutely neceſſary to keep the river, in order to re-eſtabliſh ourſelves in theſe provinces; for which purpoſe we have applied to the preſident and council of Fort St. George, to aſſiſt us with all the force they can poſſibly ſpare from the calls of their own coaſt, and have deputed Charles Manningham, Eſquire, to ſatisfy them of the neceſſity of exerting themſelves on this occaſion, for recovering your Honours ſettlements, rights, and privileges, in theſe provinces: As yet, have received no anſwer from thoſe gentlemen, tho' we daily expect one; and we hope they will not refuſe or delay ſending us down a conſiderable body of troops, as ſoon as they received our letter upon that head, as their arrival at this juncture would enable us to re-eſtabliſh your honours in all the privileges and immunities of the royal firmaund. The country being involved in troubles by the appointment of another ſubah from Dilly, who is joined by ſome royal troops, and ſeveral conſiderable jummadars, that have deſerted Serajah Dowla; there is likewiſe an invaſion expected from the Maratteos as ſoon as the rains take off; and by the intelligence we have received from Coſſimbuzar, the Nabob is greatly embarraſſed.

We have likewiſe applied to the preſident and council of Bombay for a ſupply of troops; and in caſe theſe two preſidencies give us the neceſſary aſſiſtance, we may hope, in a ſhort time, to acquaint your Honours of our being re-ſettled upon a ſecure and reſpectable footing.

The gentlemen of Luckipore and Bulromgurry have ſafely withdrawn their factories, purſuant to our orders, and brought away all their military ſtores, with what caſh and effects were laying in their reſpective factories; thoſe at Dacca could not do the ſame, for want of conveyances; all their boats being ſeized by the Nabob of that place; but were obliged to ſurrender after they heard of the loſs of Fort William.

By the next conveyances we ſhall tranſmit your honours copies of our proceedings ſince the loſs of Calcutta, with the caſh account, and what other papers are material: and are with the greateſt reſpect,

May it pleaſe your Honours,

Your faithful and moſt

Obedient humble ſervants,

Roger Drake, junior,
William Watts,
James Killpatrick,
Richard Becher,
Paul Richard Pearkes,
W. Frankland,
M. Collet,
J. Z. Holwell,
W. Mackett,
P. Amyatt.

Fort William,
the 15th September 1757.

Letter

Letter from Meſſrs. Becher, Scrafton, Hyndman, and Waller, at the French Factory at Dacca.

To the honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

May it pleaſe your Honours,

1. The preſent melancholy ſituation of your affairs in Bengal will appear a very ſufficient apology for our not addreſſing you in the uſual form of your council; ſome are killed, ſome priſoners, and thoſe who remain, retired with Mr. Drake we know not well whither. You have been doubtleſs long ſince informed of Ali Verdi Khan's having named Seir Rajah Dowlat his ſucceſſor to this province, in prejudice of his nephews, Newages Mahmud Khan and Sahid Hamud Khan; the former of which had his reſidence at Muxadavad, the latter in the Proonean country, of which he was Nabob.—The ſucceſſion of Seir Rajah Dowlat, notwithſtanding this preference, was greatly doubted; his competitors were rich and powerful, both men of much more experience in life; the one eſteemed of abilities greatly ſuperior; fortune however had adopted him, and took care to pave his way to that point of grandeur to which he is now arrived. In December laſt died Newages Mahmud Khan, a few months after the Nabob of Poornea, and on the 9th of April Ali Verdi Khan breathed his laſt. The widow of Newages for ſome time maintained a faint ſhew of oppoſition to the ſucceſſion of Seir Rajah Dowlat, in favour of a boy, named Muradel Dowlat, nephew to Seir Rajah Dowlat, and who had been adopted by her late huſband. But deſerted by her adherents, ſhe was neceſſitated to drop it, and to claim the protection of Seir Rajah Dowlat, at this time firmly eſtabliſhed. Kiſſendas, ſon to Rajabullub, who had long acted as prime miniſter to Newages Mahmud Khan, is ſaid to have retired to Calcutta, in March laſt, with immenſe riches of his father's, and of the widow of his late maſter.—The protection granted to this man, and the refuſal of delivering him up when demanded, is univerſally believed to be the cauſe of all our misfortunes. Umbrage taken at ſome new works of fortification, which were carrying on at Calcutta, and artful inſinuations to the Nabob, that the Engliſh were putting themſelves in a ſtate to make war upon him, may be the pretences.—On the 23d of May the factory at Coſſimbuzar was inveſted by a body of about 500 men; from that time til the 3d of June, freſh forces were daily arriving, when the number is ſaid to have conſiſted of 50,000. That day the Nabob Seir Rajah Dowlat likewiſe arrived, with a large body of horſe, the rear of his army; the day following he is ſaid to have diſpatched a meſſenger to Mr. Watts, to ſignify his deſire of a conference with him: this was complied with: Mr. Watts was no ſooner in his preſence than he was made priſoner, and the meſſenger returned to the factory, for Meſſrs. Collet and Batſon, the only two gentlemen in council at that time at Coſſimbuzar: he told them their preſence was neceſſary to underſign a paper, to which Mr. Watts had ſet his name, and which, without theirs, would not be valid. Theſe two gentlemen likewiſe waited on the Nabob; the latter was immediately made priſoner, and the former ſent back to the factory, with orders to the officer who commanded, to deliver it up to whoever the Nabob ſhould appoint to take poſſeſſion of it, with guns, ammunition, &c. His orders were conformed to, and the Nabob took poſſeſſion of it the 6th. This done, orders were iſſued for the march of the army towards Calcutta. For the particulars of the ſiege of that place and Fort William, we muſt beg leave to refer your honours to ſome of thoſe gentlemen who continued in the fort till it was taken. The accounts we have vary much, and are difficult to reconcile; all agree in this, that many brave men have died miſerably, whoſe lives might have been ſaved by the ſmalleſt degree of good conduct and reſolution in their leaders.—That Mr. Drake refuſed liſtening to any terms of accommodation, ſaid to have been propoſed by the Nabob, while at Hughley, to avert the ſtorm which threatened the colony, is what we can hardly credit, though this is confidently affirmed. In a garriſon ſo ill provided as it appears Fort William was, it would certainly have been eligible to have ſubmitted to any for the preſent, and to have waved his reſentment till a change of circumſtances might enable him to gratify it, and to obtain ſuch as were more advantageous. The Nabob in his return from Calcutta, after marching a number of his men through Chandernagore, and committing many irregularities, extorted from the French the ſum of three lacks of rupees, and from the Dutch 450,000. and from the Danes 50,000. The French have behaved with the greateſt humanity to ſuch as have taken refuge at their factory; and the tenor of their conduct every where to us, on this melancholy occaſion, has been ſuch as to merit the grateful acknowledgment of our nation. The ſloop which, in our correſpondence with Monſ. Courtin, your Honours will obſerve we became anſwerable for, to prevent the ill conſequences of Mr. Amyatt's ſeizing her at ſo critical a juncture, is, with her cargo, we are informed, ſafely arrived at Chandernagore.

2. It was on the 23d of May, as in a preceding paragraph we have acquainted your Honours, that Coſſimbuzar factory was firſt inveſted. It was the 9th of June before we had any letter from the gentlemen in Calcutta; it was dated the 3d, and in general terms directed us to be upon our guard, as the Nabob had taken offence at ſome works which were carrying on at Calcutta, and it was uncertain to what lengths his caprices and paſſion might lead him: our ſituation, and the want of embarkations, rendered a compliance with their orders of the

7th (received the 12th) utterly impracticable: for our reaſons fully deduced, we beg leave to refer your Honours to our conſultation of the 12th, in thoſe, and our public letters, both which accompany this addreſs to your Honours, the conſultation of the 3d and 5th excepted, two copies of which have been ſent to Calcutta, but the originals we have not been able to get out of the factory: we have been ſufficiently explicit to enable you to judge and determine on our conduct, and ſhall not enter into a further detail.

3. As your books and papers are all in the poſſeſſion of the Nabob, we cannot, with exactneſs, inform you of the loſs you have ſuſtained at your factory at Dacca. If they will permit us to extract a few minutes from the books, we ſhall ſhortly be able to make it up, and your Honours may depend on having it by the firſt occaſion.

4. As to ourſelves we have loſt every thing; a conſciouſneſs of having to the utmoſt of our abilities diſcharged our duty to your Honours, and the hopes of your future favour, ſhould it appear to you we have acted in ſuch a manner as to deſerve it, muſt, for the preſent, ſupport us. Your Honours will do us the juſtice to believe, that in the ſurrender of our factory without reſiſtance, we have not been actuated by any unmanly attachment to life. Every neceſſary diſpoſition our ſituation would admit of had been made; and while Fort William ſtood, our reſolution was taken to defend ourſelves to the laſt extremity.—That gone, and all hopes of aſſiſtance cut off, it is certain we might have died, or by exaſperating an ungenerous enemy, expoſed ourſelves to ignominy and torment, but this would in no ſhape have availed your Honours.

5. The French gentlemen at Chandernagore and Coſſimbuzar are warmly ſoliciting our liberty; if we are ſo happy as to obtain it, we propoſe going to Madraſs in the firſt ſhip; where we ſhall be ready to ſerve your Honours in any ſuitable employment your Preſident and Council there may point out to us, till your pleaſure is known.

6. Excluſive of the gentlemen whoſe names appear at the foot of this letter, there are priſoners with us here, Mr. John Cartier, a factor of one year's ſtanding; Mr. John Johnſtone juſt commencing, Aſſiſtants Lieut. John Cudmore, and Mr. Nathaniel Wilſon, Surgeon; Mr. William Sumner, the ſecond at this factory, abſent at Calcutta, by permiſſion, and who we hear is ſafe, having been ordered on board ſhip ſome days before the place was taken.

We adviſed the gentlemen at Madraſs of this unhappy event, as ſoon as we could collect any particulars which we thought carried an appearance of truth.

We are, with great reſpect,
May it pleaſe your Honours.
Your Honours faithful
Humble ſervants,
Richard Becher,
Luke Scrafton,
Thomas Hyndman,
Samuel Waller.

From the French factory at
Dacca, July 18th, 1756.

Extract of a Letter from Meſſrs Watts and Collet, to the honourable the Court of Directors.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies.

May it pleaſe your Honours,

It is with the utmoſt concern we now inform you, that Fort William was taken the 20th of June by the Nabob of Bengal, grandſon of Alliverdicawn, who died laſt April. The firſt riſe of theſe troubles are as follows:

Some time after his coming to the government, he ſent one Narran Sing, brother to Rogeram, who is Nabob at Cuttack, and commander of the Spys (which in this country is a conſiderable poſt) to Calcutta, where he arrived privately, and in diſguiſe, with a letter from the Nabob to the Governor; which the Governor did not think proper to receive, as it was preſented in ſuch a way, but turned Narran Sing with diſgrace out of the place. The Chief of Coſſimbuzar, being apprehenſive that this might occaſion ſome trouble, wrote to the Durbar officers, to prevent any complaint being made to the Nabob, and the affair was ſeemingly huſhed up; but a few days were elapſed, when he ſent for our Vaqueel, and told him he heard they were making fortifications, and digging a ditch round Calcutta; and inſiſted that we ſhould level our new works, and fill up the ditch. Upon the Vaqueel's returning from the Durbar, and acquainting the Chief with what the Nabob ſaid, he wrote to him, that he had not heard of any new fortifications being raiſed, or ditch dug; and that we were apprehenſive that our enemies, for their own lucrative advantages, had raiſed theſe reports; to this letter he returned no anſwer, but ſent a purwannah to Calcutta, ordering them to deſiſt from fortifying, and to level what new works they had begun. He then marched to the northward, and gave out he was going to Patna. On his arrival at Rajamaul, he received the Governor's anſwer, at which he was greatly incenſed, and immediately ordered a party of horſe and gun men upon our factory, and returned back himſelf

with the greateſt expedition with his whole army, which encamped round our factory, and according to the moſt moderate computation conſiſted of 10,000 horſe, and 20,000 Rajepouts, and other gun men, with a large train of artillery; and then demanded the Chief to come out, and ſee him; the Nabob's Duan, who commanded the van of the army, writing the Chief a letter, that he might come out with great ſafety, that no harm ſhould happen, and that he would introduce him to the Nabob: upon this we thought proper to ſend the ſurgeon of the factory to the Duan; and he gave him the ſame aſſurances, and ſent him back with a conſiderable perſon, and a preſent of beetle (which is eſteemed a pledge of faith) to accompany the Chief to the Duan, who was to introduce him to the Nabob; accordingly, agreeable to the unanimous opinion of the gentlemen of the factory, and officer of the garriſon, the Chief went, and was preſented by the Duan to the Nabob; who immediately ordered him into confinement, and inſiſted on his giving an obligation, that in 15 days time the gentlemen of Calcutta ſhould level what new works they had raiſed, deliver up the Nabob's tenants, who had fled for protection there; and that if it ſhould be proved we had falſified the Company's duſtucks, by giving them to thoſe that had no right to them, we ſhould pay back what the government had ſuffered by loſs of duties: the chief, being in their hands, was obliged to ſign this. They then told him, that his ſigning was of no conſequence, without the reſt of the Council; accordingly, upon the Surgeon's returning to the factory, with an eunuch of the Nabob's, and two or three others, who acquainted Meſſrs. Collet and Batſon, that it was neceſſary they ſhould go to the Chief to make an end of the affair; they went, and were detained priſoners, nothing more being ſaid about the obligation the Chief had ſigned. The next day we were ordered to deliver up our ammunition and cannon, which, upon mature deliberation, we thought proper to comply with, in hopes to entirely pacify the Nabob, and prevent his march to Calcutta. The army then drew off from the factory.

Extract of Mr. Drake's Letter to the Council at Fort William, dated Calcutta, 17th to 25th January 1757.

Par. 4. Referring to Mr. Becher's letter, under date of the 26th November laſt, that gentleman condemns my conduct, in that I granted protection, or admitted into Calcutta, Kiſſendaſs; that I refuſed to receive the Nabob's perwannah, and inſulted the meſſenger; the aſſuming to myſelf ſuch an authority to act without the advice, or acquainting my Council thereof; my not uſing proper means to accommodate matters, when I found the Nabob irritated; and not ſecuring on board the ſhips the Company's books, papers, and treaſure; and finally abandoning the fort in the manner I did: To all which accuſations I reply, That the admiſſion of Kiſſendaſs into Calcutta was permitted by Mr. Manningham, in my abſence on a viſit to Ballaſore, where I went, after the diſpatch of our laſt Europe ſhip that ſeaſon, the 9th of March, and returned the 21ſt of ſaid month. Kiſſendaſs I think arrived here the 16th, and he, or ſome of his people, introduced a letter from Mr. Watts to Mr. Manningham, with one incloſed for myſelf under a flying ſeal, to the following purport, as far as my remembrance leads me: That an application had been made to him by Rajahbullub (who is father to Kiſſendaſs) requeſting he would admit his (Rajahbullub's) family into Calcutta for the ſpace of two months, until one of the women was brought to bed, and able to proceed on her journey to Jaggernot Pagod; and ſtrenuouſly recommended we would not refuſe that requeſt, as Rajahbullub was likely to hold great poſts in the government, and might, from ſuch favour ſhewn his family, be inſtrumental of giving an uninterrupted currency to our buſineſs at Dacca and its dependencies; which recommendation from Mr. Watts, who then was ſo nearly ſituated to the Durbar of Muxadavad, drew a grant from Mr. Manningham, to admit Kiſſendaſs, his family, and attendants, into our bounds. I think Meſſrs. Frankland and Holwell are able to teſtify that ſuch a letter was penned by Mr. Watts, nor would I be underſtood to throw any blame on Mr. Manningham, for having had regard thereto; had I been preſent on Kiſſendaſs his arrival, I ſhould certainly adhered to ſo ſtrong a recommendatory letter from our chief at Coſſimbuzar; nor was any diſturbance ſurmiſed would happen on account of that family's reſidence here, or on any other account, until about the 15th of April, when a perwannah arrived, ſaid to contain an immediate demand, from the Nabob, of Rajahbullub's family and wealth; which leads me to anſwer Mr. Becher's ſecond accuſation, That I refuſed to receive the ſaid perwannah, and inſulted the meſſenger, by Meſſrs. Manningham, Holwell, and myſelf, is a fact, and the meſſenger was ordered out of the bounds. Our then reaſons, that induced us to act, were, that this meſſenger, or rather ſpy, came into our bounds in diſguiſe, and his firſt foot on ſhore was at Omichund's houſe, who received him privately, and a perwannah for himſelf, tending, as we learnt, to this purport, that he, Omichund, was to intereſt himſelf to obtain the immediate delivery of Rajahbullub's ſons and family to Narrandaſs, brother to Rojeram, the Nabob's head ſpy: This firſt arbitrary and unuſual proceeding of the new Nabob, before his having adviſed our Preſidency, (as has ever been cuſtomary on change of government) of his ſucceſſion to the government, cauſed a ſuſpicion, that the ſaid perwannah had been wrote without his conſent or knowledge; and not at that time having had any intelligence from Mr. Watts, that ſuch a perſon had been diſpatched by the Nabob, joined with the fear Omichund ſhewed on the occaſion, determined us to reject the perwannah (which

(which Mr. Manningham or myſelf never had a ſight of) and to order Narrandaſs inſtantly out of our bounds; and if that gentleman and Mr. Holwell will recollect, I think they muſt acknowledge I then produced Mr. Watts his original letter, recommending, in moſt ſtrenuous terms, the reception of that family into our ſettlement, with two or three others; certifying how uſeful the retaining Rajahbullub in our intereſt would be, who was likely to hold great poſts in the government; at the ſame inſtant I was required by thoſe gentlemen to acquaint Mr. Watts of the clandeſtine manner whereby Narrandaſs ſtole into our bounds; of our refuſal to receive the perwannah, and his being ordered to quit our ſettlement: To which Mr. Watts replied, That our Vaqueel had repreſented to the chief Durbar officers the whole that had happened; and that the reply thereto was, That we ſurely had a right to diſmiſs ſuch people out of our bounds. It is with regret I mention not having Mr. Watts his letters to produce; but I appeal to Mr. Manningham, Frankland, and Holwell, to whom I communicated, at different times, the purport of thoſe letters, whether circumſtances to be gathered therefrom were not implying, that Rajahbullub would be taken into favour again; and adviſing, rather ſhewing, civility to his family than any way to diſtreſs them; giving his opinion, that we ſhould be cautious, and not let them leave Calcutta: One letter did imply to give them warning to depart, as the ſpace of time, his father had applied for their reſidence here, was nigh elapſed; that was ſoon contradicted; and I call on Mr. Watts to declare, whether I did not frequently expreſs, I was apprehenſive that family's reſidence here would bring the Company's affairs into trouble; and whether I ever ſhewed any diſinclination to their quitting the bounds, or ſubmitting to the delivery of them, had the Nabob openly required it. Further, Mr. Watts wrote me, he had acquainted the principal men a Muxadavad, that I ſhould have no objection to deliver up Kiſſendaſs; but that he thought I ſhould not conſent to the giving up of his women, nor would that be inſiſted on. To the blame Mr. Becher is pleaſed to caſt on me, for aſſuming to myſelf the ſole authority of acting without the conſent or advice of my council, in the protection granted Kiſſendaſs, and the diſmiſſion of the meſſenger who brought the perwannah for the immediate delivery of him and his family, I muſt beg leave to refer, in part thereof, to my reply to his foregoing accuſation againſt my conduct; wherein it will appear, beyond contradiction, that I aſſumed no power of acting by arbitrary will: I could wiſh the perwannah had not been refuſed, but in public council, which ſat that very morning; and the gentlemen were aſſembled in the conſultation room before Meſſrs. Manningham and Holwell quitted my apartment, and were all well acquainted with the ſteps we had taken; but not one member of the board opened his mouth to ſpeak thereon, which was their duty to do, had they then imagined evil conſequences would be the attendant on that proceeding; which leads me to remark, that no gentleman of the council can excuſe himſelf for that ſilence; as I think I ſhall be ſupported in declaring, I never attempted to bridle their tongues. I further am led to think, that Mr. Becher, who was in Calcutta from the latter end of February to the beginning of April, though not obliged to attend our councils, when his abſence from his chiefſhip at Dacca, on account of his own concerns, was permitted, might then have ſet forth his apprehenſions that ſuch our proceedings were wrong, which any ſlight intimation of to, or at, the board, would have ſaved me many an unhappy reflection on what my character has ſince ſuffered from after-thinking men: what availed it me, or either Meſſrs. Manningham or Holwell, whether Rajahbullub's family was, or was not, to be admitted and kept in our town; but to hold in good correſpondence and harmony, people who then had great influence at the Durbar, thereby to promote the intereſt of our employers, and to act according to the chief of Coſſimbuzar, his recommendation, who has always been ſuppoſed a competent judge how to hold the great men in favour at the Durbar; even had any letter, private or general, from Coſſimbuzar, intimated ſo far as even an apprehenſion, that the protecting Kiſſendaſs would be likely to draw on the Nabob's anger, I dare aver either of thoſe two gentlemen would have communicated the ſame in public council; I anſwer I ſhould for myſelf; and I am ſure liberty of ſpeech and writing has too much prevailed in this ſettlement not to admit it from any perſon who then thought the Company's intereſt was injured. I ſhould fall into the ſame error with after conjectures, if I aſk why the gentlemen of Coſſimbuzar did not, at any time, inform us it was a wrong proceeding to continue Rajahbullub's family with us: if they thought ſo, it was their duty to have ſet forth the Nabob was irritated thereat, and at the diſmiſſion of the ſpy; but far otherwiſe, no mention was ever made to us from that factory of any umbrage the Nabob took on that account; not even the name of any of Rajahbullub's family appeared in their general letters. The next accuſation Mr. Becher is pleaſed to alledge againſt me, though I think it may be deemed rather a general blame on the whole board, is, that I did not uſe proper means to accommodate matters when I found the Nabob irritated. I would aſk Mr. Becher, if he has hitherto made an enquiry, or from his certain knowledge can give the board intelligence, what methods were purſued to hinder the Nabob's approach, and to ſpecify his ungovernable paſſion and premeditated reſolution to extirpate the Engliſh from his dominions. I ſhall not therefore immediately enter here a detail of thoſe meaſures, but think they promiſed to be the moſt effectual means thoſe members preſent could take; and, I do conjecture, will be now ſo by them acknowledged, as the appearance and circumſtances of every matter then preſented itſelf to us.

APPENDIX. No. 4.

At the East India House, Thursday, December 2 1762.

Present, All the Commissaries, English and Dutch.

The Dutch commissaries acknowledging the candour of the English, in sending them copies of their treaties with the Nabobs, observed, that a 13th article, as transmitted by Colonel Clive to the government of Chinsurah, and inserted in the Appendix to their memorial, page 12, is not to be found in either of those treaties; the English commissaries disavowed all knowledge of that article: with this declaration the others seemed much satisfied, saying, that if this article had stood confirmed, it would have been the greatest grievance they had to complain of.

Letter from the English commissaries to Lord Clive, relative to the 13th article, and Lord Clive's answer thereto.

At the East India House, Tuesday the 14th of December 1762.

Present, All the English Commissaries. Also, Mr. Dunning.

A letter was agreed upon, by the gentlemen, to Lord Clive, to be signed by the secretary, desiring his lordship to enable them to clear up the difficulty with the Dutch commissaries, concerning the 13th article of the treaty with Jaffier Aly Khan, inserted in the 12th page of the Appendix to the memorial of the Dutch Company; the said letter being as follows:

My Lord,

In the course of the conferences between the English and Dutch commissaries, the latter have very strongly pressed the point of the letter and article inclosed from your lordship to Mr. Bisdom, as mentioned in the 12th article of the Appendix to their memorial:—In respect of the article, the English commissaries have given the answer your lordship instructed them to give in your letter to Mr. Rous, of the 18th of August, that is, that it was in the Persian language, and had been misinterpreted; but they observe, that the letter in which this article was inclosed, speaks of it as a 13th article, which had been solemnly ratified and confirmed by oath, on one side by the Nabob, and on the other by the English East India Company—Whereas the treaty appears to consist of 12 articles, and therefore the Dutch insinuate, that whether the article, as they have printed it, be well or ill translated from that inclosed in your lordship's letter; the letter itself, which speaks of a 13th article, must be a misrepresentation, and in this way the English commissaries apprehend they mean to impeach the credit of your lordship's attestation, on which our defence chiefly rests.

I am ordered by the gentlemen to communicate this to your lordship, and to add, that as they have no doubt but your lordship can, they trust you will, enable them to clear up this difficulty.

I am, with the greatest respect,
Your lordship's most obedient,
and most humble servant,
Robert James, Secretary.

East India House,
the 14th Dec. 1762.

Right honourable Lord Clive.

Wednesday, the 15th Dec. 1762.

Received the following answer of this date from Lord Clive, to the letter sent his lordship yesterday, by order of the English Commissaries, viz.

SIR,

I desire you will inform the gentlemen of the Committee, that I think I cannot explain myself much more fully on the subject than I have already done. I do remember to have wrote such a letter as is set forth in the 12th page of the Appendix in the Dutch memorial; but as I am without a copy of that letter, I cannot be certain the article I sent Mr. Bisdom was called the 13th; if it was, it must be a mistake in the interpreter, because I do not understand Persian, and all the articles were wrote in that language; but as I did inclose to Mr. Bisdom an article, I do verily believe, nay I am almost certain, it must be the second article which has been falsely translated to serve a particular purpose; and I must insist upon it, if what they call the 13th article should prove to be, verbatim, the same as the second article, which can only be proved by producing the Persian article itself, it must prove, that there never existed a 13th, because it would be absurd to repeat the same article twice.

As

As to the ſolemn ratification and confirmation by oath, &c. that might have been ſent with the Perſian article, to enforce it with Mr. Biſdom, though it be no part of that particular article, but belongs to, and ſucceeds, the whole.

I am, Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

Berkeley Square, Clive.
15th Dec. 1762.
Robert James, Eſquire.

APPENDIX, No. 5.

Letter from Mr. Drake, &c. dated 14th July 1757.

To the honourable the Secret Committee for affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. We have given you a full account of the ſtate of theſe provinces, and our tranſactions, to the 26th March; triplicate of which advices were forwarded by his majeſty's ſloop of war, the King's Fiſher.

2. This letter is purpoſely to acquaint you of a happy revolution in the government of this kingdom, in favour of Jaffier Aly Khan, of the part we took in this affair, and our motives for it; and of the advantages obtained, by eſpouſing the preſent Subah's cauſe, and placing the ſway in his hands.

3. On the firſt of May Colonel Clive laid before us two letters he had received from Mr. Watts, dated the 26th and 28th April, in which, after ſome obſervations on the ſtrangeneſs of the Nabob's behaviour, and that all degrees of people were perſuaded he would break with us upon the firſt favourable opportunity, he proceeds to inform the Colonel, that Jaffier Aly Khan had ſent for Coja Petroſe, and given him to underſtand, that moſt of the Nabob's principal officers were tired of his government, and ready to deſert him and ſet up another, if we would countenance and ſupport the confederacy with the aſſiſtance of our troops: that if we approved of this ſcheme, he deſired our demands of what monies, lands, &c. would induce us to engage in the buſineſs.—In the laſt of the abovementioned letters Mr. Watts repeats his apprehenſions of the Nabob's deſign to break the treaty he made with us, urges a ſpeedy anſwer might be ſent to Jaffier Aly Khan's propoſal, and gives it as his opinion, the project was feaſible, and might be executed without much difficulty.

4. As a propoſition of this importance required our moſt ſerious conſideration, we accordingly debated maturely the conſequences of embracing this offer, and whether it ſhould be accepted or declined.—After a long conſultation, in which every reaſon for and againſt the ſcheme was collected, and deliberately argued on; it was the unanimous ſenſe of the Committee, that a revolution in the government, whatever hands it fell into, would be advantageous to the Engliſh; that there could be no hurt in trying to effect it, as our good underſtanding with Serajah Dowla was extremely precarious, and a rupture with him univerſally expected as ſoon as the ſquadron and army left us; and that by joining Jaffier Aly Khan, to ſupplant him, we ſhould obtain, in all probability, very beneficial terms for the Company, as well as live free of any apprehenſions from the country government. But as theſe general reaſons would not have juſtified our embarking the Company in ſuch an undertaking, and hazarding a breach with Serajah Dowla, after concluding the peace we did, we think it neceſſary to recite at large our motives for engaging in a confederacy to change the government, and doubt not they will be eſteemed ſufficient by our employers, to vindicate our proceedings.

5. Firſt, it was evident to us, from the whole tenor of the Nabob's behaviour ſince the peace, that we could not poſſibly rely on his friendſhip; and that the treaty made with him would ſoon be violated, when once he thought himſelf ſuperior to us in ſtrength; his delay in performing the agreement, many of the articles being at that time as far from being completed as at firſt; the evaſion of giving us any ſatisfaction for the loſſes ſuffered by our inhabitants, through Monichund's means; the ſmall ſum of money which was pretended to be given credit for in his Sircarry, being ſcarce a tenth part of the loſs ſuſtained by the Europeans alone; with ſeveral other parts of his conduct; were ſo many convincing proofs, that his friendſhip was inſincere; and that he could not abide by his treaty, which the exigency of his ſituation alone inclined him to make.

6. Secondly, There was the greateſt reaſon to imagine he was an utter enemy to the Engliſh, and privately endeavouring to bring in the French, with promiſes of joining them againſt us. We were confirmed in this opinion, from the great averſion he ſhewed to our moleſting the French at Chandernagore; his eſpouſing and protecting Monſieur Law and his party after that place was taken; his keeping them in his pay; and the certain intelligence we had received from all quarters, of his writing frequently to Monſieur Bouſſé, ſending him large preſents, and inviting him to march this way.—This was ſo notorious, that it was publicly talked of and known, his Coſſids paſſing almoſt daily through Ballaſore; and but a few days before, ſome elephants and ſeerpaws arrived at that place, in their paſſage to Monſieur Bouſſé's camp.

7. Laſtly, There was great room to think he did not mean well, by the orders he had given to fortify Cutwah, and the removing of Suffras Cawn's family from Dacca into Poorannea.—The interruption our boats and people met with in their way to Coſſimbuzar, contrary to the treaty of peace, with many actions of the ſame nature, which put it beyond all doubt, that this diſlike and jealouſy of our nation was rooted; and that he would not miſs any opportunity of ruining our affairs, and extirpating the Engliſh out of his country.—It was therefore but common prudence to prevent our own ruin; which could not be done ſo effectually any other way, than by diveſting the Nabob of the power of hurting us.

8. Another inducement to undertake this affair, was the univerſal hatred of all ſorts and conditions of men to Serajah Dowla; the affection of his army alienated from him, by his ill uſage of the officers; and a revolution ſo generally wiſhed for, that it is probable it would be attempted (and perhaps ſucceſsful) even without our aſſiſtance; in which caſe it would have availed us but little: whereas by countenancing the confederacy, and ſupporting it with our whole force, we might make our own terms, benefit our employers, both by preſent and future advantages, do a general good, procure ſome ſatisfaction to the inhabitants of our colony for their heavy loſſes in the capture, eſtabliſh the tranquillity of the country, and by that means open a greater currency than ever to our buſineſs; and laſtly, cut off the expectation of the French, and keep them totally out of theſe dominions.

9. Motives ſo intereſting, and founded upon the prime law of ſelf-preſervation, determined us to embrace the propoſal made by Jaffier Aly Khan, provided adequate terms were granted in conſideration of entering into a freſh war with the Nabob, whoſe conſequence muſt have proved very detrimental to our affairs, if the ſucceſs of it had not been anſwerable to our expectations. Accordingly, after ſome conſideration, the following demands were eſteemed equitable and reaſonable to be aſked, viz. That our firmaund and the privileges acquired by the treaty with Serajah Dowla, be confirmed, and punctually complied with; that reſtitution be made of the Company's whole loſs, and the loſs of the European inhabitants of Calcutta; that our bounds be augmented; that we have liberty to fortify Coſſimbuzar; that an offenſive and defenſive alliance be made againſt all enemies of both parties, as well Europeans as others; and that the French be not permitted to reſettle in theſe provinces; that the Moors do not fortify within twenty miles of the river ſide from Hughley down to Ingellie; and that the revenues of a certain track of land be made over and aſſigned to us, in conſideration of our maintaining a good body of troops. Theſe terms were accordingly tranſmitted to Mr. Watts, to get Jaffier Aly Khan to aſſent to them.

10. On the 17th May, colonel Clive laid before us a letter from Mr. Watts, with ſuch articles of agreement as Jaffier Aly Khan's confidant had aſſured him would be accepted of, and requeſting, that if they were approved of by the admiral and committee, they might be ingroſſed in cypher, ſigned and ſealed by them, and returned to him to get them executed by Jaffier Aly Khan: as thoſe articles were greatly more advantageous for the Company than the terms we had demanded, there could be no objection to them on our part; they were accordingly approved of, and ordered to be ingroſſed with ſome alterations, relating to the ſatisfaction of private ſufferers. The ſubſtance of them you will find in the tranſlate of the Perſian treaty, herewith tranſmitted for your obſervation.

11. In order to prevent the leaſt ſuſpicion of what we were doing, our troops were ordered into quarters, part of them in Calcutta, and part in Chandernagore; and the Nabob wrote to (agreeable to Jaffier Aly Khan's advice) to recall his army encamped at Plaſſey and Dandpore.

12. Matters being advanced thus far, it was next judged proper to obtain, if poſſible, a perſonal conference between Jaffier Aly Khan, and ſome perſon of truſt and confidence on our part: to effect this, without alarming the Nabob's ſuſpicions, it was propoſed for the colonel to ſend the Nabob a letter by Mr. Scrafton's hands, acquainting him, that he had an affair of conſequence to communicate, by which means Mr. Scrafton might have an opportunity of ſeeing Jaffier Aly Khan, and confer with him on the plan of operations for executing our project; to aſſure him of our attachment to his intereſt; and to uſe his endeavours to get ſuch ſecurity as could well be given, without diſcovering the ſcheme.

13. On the 19th May the treaty being ingroſſed in the manner Mr. Watts had requeſted, it was ſigned and ſealed by the admiral and the members of the committee.

14. From that time till the 11th June, the colonel received ſeveral letters from Mr. Watts, confirming us in the opinion we had conceived of the Nabob's writing to Monſieur Bouſſé to march this way, and extirpate the Engliſh. Theſe letters likewiſe gave a detail of the progreſs of our negotiation with Jaffier Aly Khan, who on the 15th ultimo ſigned, ſealed, and ſolemnly ſwore in the preſence of Mr. Watts, to abide by the treaty he had made with the Engliſh; and to perform punctually the agreement on his part, as ſoon as he was in poſſeſſion of the ſubahſhip.

15. Mirza Omar Beg, on the 11th ultimo, arrived at the French gardens, where we aſſembled a committee, and had the treaty in Perſian executed by Jaffier Aly Khan, delivered us by the abovementioned perſon, who gave us the greateſt aſſurances of his friendſhip and eſteem for the Engliſh; that there would be very little difficulty in effecting a change of government; and that we might depend upon it, Jaffier Aly Khan would be punctual in performing every article of his agreement.

16. Mr.

16. Mr. Watts, his letters all urging the immediate march of our troops towards Muxadavad; and the committee for many reaſons judging it beſt to loſe no time, as this appeared the moſt favourable conjuncture we could have to ſucceed in our enterprize; and as a delay might not only produce a diſcovery of our confederacy, and conſequently the ruin of our project, but would greatly diminiſh our ſtrength, while the Nabob would have time to augment his army, by calling in his troops from all quarters, and inliſting others; it was therefore reſolved to ſet out immediately, and on the 13th of June our troops began their march.

17. On the 19th or 20th June, Cutwah town and fort (a ſtrong place) was taken by our troops, where the colonel remained two or three days, to get ſome advice or letter from Jaffier Aly Khan, having received but one in his way up.—The 26th June we had the pleaſure to receive a letter from him, with the news of a complete victory obtained over Serajah Dowla, in the plains of Plaſſey; his whole army and himſelf being fled, and we in poſſeſſion of his camp, ordnance, &c. That Jaffier Aly Khan, Roydoolub, and Lutter Caun, had obſerved a neutrality during the engagement, and were with the colonel at the time of writing of his letter.

18. On the 29th we received the agreeable news of Jaffier Aly Khan's being in poſſeſſion of the city and kila of Muxadavad; that Serajah Dowla had wirhdrawn privately, but it was not doubted would be ſoon taken; and that Mohunloll was priſoner at the city. In a letter of the 30th June, colonel Clive acquainted us of his having ſeated Jaffier Aly Khan in the muſſnud; and that he had received the homages of his jemidars and people, as ſubah of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa.

19. We now beg leave to congratulate you, honourable Sirs, and the Company, on our ſucceſs in this important buſineſs, and the happy change of government eſtabliſhed in theſe dominions ſo fortunately and ſpeedily. Our loſs has been but very trifling, not above 20 Europeans being killed, and wounded.

20. The advantages of the treaty made with the preſent Nabob, are too apparent to want any comment, if the terms are punctually complied with, which we have not the leaſt reaſon to doubt; but we muſt take the liberty to recommend to your ſerious conſideration, the preſervation of the grants and privileges acquired by this revolution, which can be done only by keeping up a large body of troops in the country: as it is the Company's intereſt to exert themſelves on this occaſion, we make no doubt you will immediately enliſt, and ſend out a ſufficient number of recruits, to make a reſpectable garriſon in Bengal, which ſhould conſiſt of a body of two thouſand Europeans at leaſt, which expences we think will be overpaid by the advantages of our acquiſitions: we flatter ourſelves, therefore, you will not, on any account, neglect the ſending ſuch a body of Europeans as we have mentioned to be neceſſary: this we are of opinion will be the only method of preventing, in future, the encroachments of the country government, to make our friendſhip and alliance courted, to carry on our trade on the ſecureſt footing, and to oppoſe the re-ſettlement of the French in theſe provinces.

21. Upon examining the treaſury, Roydoolub pretended there was but one crore and 50 lack of rupees in balance: this obliged colonel Clive to go to the city himſelf, in order to be near the Nabob. This letter of the 30th ultimo informs us to put an end to all heartburnings and jealouſies between us and the Nabob; he agreed to refer the affair to Juggutſeat's arbitration: that the Nabob and he accordingly went there; and after ſome conſideration, Juggutſeat deſired the colonel would not inſiſt immediately on the full payment of the ſums ſtipulated in the treaty; but that half ſhould be made good without delay, in money and jewels; the other half to be paid in three years, at three annual and equal payments. Theſe terms the Colonel conſented to, as they were better than he expected, conſidering the lowneſs of the Nabob's treaſury; ſince which we learn, that one third in ſpecie of the whole was actually embarking on boats for Calcutta.

22. But as the bad conſequences of deferring the payment of any part of the money, appeared to us too evident to be allowed of, if it could be avoided, we have wrote the Colonel our ſentiments thereon, and deſired the gentlemen of the Select Committee, who are at Muxadavad, to uſe their beſt endeavours to obtain immediate payment; but if that is not to be done, to get ſome good ſecurity from the Nabob to abide by his contract; that for our parts, we ſhould prefer Juggetſeat's engaging to ſee it punctually made good; and next to that ſecurity, a mortgage of ſuch lands contiguous to Calcutta, whoſe revenues will be equal to the ſum to be received by us annually.

23. Having given you, honourable Sirs, a very particular detail of our tranſactions, ſince engaging in the confederacy, to ſet up Jaffier Aly Khan, we have reaſon to flatter ourſelves you will approve of our conduct through the whole of this nice, but neceſſary, ſtep.

24. Mr. Manningham is gone up to Muxadavad to aſſiſt in haſtening the completion of the treaty, and ſettling ſuch matters as relate to the mercantile part of it.

25. By a letter from Colonel Clive, dated the 30th June late at night, we learnt that Serajah Dowla was taken; and by another letter of the fourth inſtant, we are informed of his being cut off by Jaffier Ally Khan's ſon and others.

26. Tranquillity being eſtabliſhed by the change, we have advice of people's minds more at eaſe, and no apprehenſions of trouble from the government remaining. We have begun the purchaſe of this year's inveſtment, by ſending money to the different aurungs; and

hope,

hope, with the aſſiſtance of the goods received from Serajah Dowla at our ſubordinates and aurungs, to be able to ſend the Company a handſome return from this preſidency.

27. As the ſum of money to be received from the Nabob, even if Juggutſeat's determination is to ſtand good, will greatly exceed our demands for the inveſtment; we propoſe to advertize, that all intereſt notes will be diſcharged upon being tendered; and that, in caſe the proprietors do not ſue for payment before the firſt day of October next, the intereſt will ceaſe from that day. This will eaſe the Company of a very heavy burthen, and we hope will prove very agreeable news. In this place we muſt beg leave to remark, that by Juggutſeat's determination, the Company are to receive, for three years ſucceſſively, the ſum of 16 lacks and two thirds of rupees in ſpecie, which, with the ſale of your annual imports, and the amount of bills of exchange that we ſhall be under a neceſſity of granting, will be fully ſufficient, we imagine, for the reſpective inveſtments of thoſe three years, without obliging the Company to run the riſque of any bullion for the ſupply of this preſidency, till that term of years is expired.

28. Theſe advices are diſpatched in triplicates to the Select Committee of Bombay, to be forwarded to Europe by them, by the quickeſt conveyances, either by ſhipping or by land. We ſhall endeavour to ſend copies to Fort St. George, to be forwarded from thence to Europe; and ſhall diſpatch the Diligent ſchooner about the middle of next month directly home, with another copy of this pacquet; by which means we hope the Company will get the intelligence of what has happened in Bengal before the ſhips of next ſeaſon leave England.

29. Since writing thus far, the money from Muxadavad is arrived.

We are, with the greateſt reſpect, honourable Sirs,

your moſt faithful humble ſervants,

Fort William,
14th July 1757.

Roger Drake Jun.
Richard Becher.

Proceedings 17th May 1757.

Fort William, the 17th May 1757.

Tueſday, 17th May 1757.

At a Committee; Preſent,

The honourable Roger Drake, Eſquire, Preſident,
Robert Clive, Eſquire,
James Kilpatrick, Eſquire,
Richard Becher, Eſquire,

The proceedings of the 12th inſtant being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and ſigned.

Colonel Clive lays the following letter from Mr. Watts to him, before the Committee; which being read, contained as follows:

Copy of Mr. Watts, his letter to Colonel Clive, dated the 14th May.

I received a letter two days ago from Mr. Scrafton, wherein he writes Omichund, that you have agreed to give him 5 per cent. on whatever money he may receive on the new contract. As I by no means think he merits ſuch a favour, or has acted ſo diſintereſted a part as I once imagined, I have not mentioned the 5 per cent. to him. The particulars relating to him, that are come to my knowledge, are theſe: when our treaty was concluded with the Nabob, and the 20,000 gold mohurs agreed to be given in conſideration of the plunder of Calcutta, the Nabob had agreed with Rungeet Roy and Omichund to pay 20,000 gold mohurs more, which they told the Nabob was to be given among the leading men in Calcutta, for aſſenting to the treaty; beſides which, the Nabob agreed to give 2 lack of rupees, half of which Omichund agreed Rungeet Roy was to have; 25,000 rupees he was himſelf to have; and the other 75,000 rupees was to be diſpoſed of to whom Omichund thought proper to favour. Theſe particulars I had from Omichund himſelf; and from very good authority have been lately informed, that on the Nabob's arrival here, Rungeet Roy was very preſſing with him to comply with his promiſe of paying the 20,000 mohurs, and the lack of rupees, in hopes of getting poſſeſſion of the lack of rupees, which the Nabob was not inclinable to pay.—This Omichund obſerved, and in order to gain favour, at a proper time he told the Nabob, that if Rungeet Roy was ſuffered to interfere in our affairs, the Nabob would be obliged to pay the above ſums; but if he diſgraced him, he would ſave the money.—This advice the Nabob followed, and Omichund, in conſideration of this advice, got purwannahs and orders to the ſeveral aurungs, to have his money, goods, and effects, delivered up.—To corroborate what I have been informed of, I this day aſked Omichund, if I ſhould apply to the Nabob for the money; but he adviſes me ſtrenuouſly againſt it, ſaying, it was a ſecret contract, and by no means proper for me to mention, but he would himſelf think of means to get it.—I ſhewed the articles you ſent up to Omichund, who did not approve of them, but inſiſted on my demanding for him 5 per cent. on all the Nabob's treaſure, which would amount to two crore of rupees, beſides a quarter of all his wealth; and that Meer Jaffier ſhould oblige himſelf to take from the Zemindars no more than they paid in Jaffier Cawn's time.—To ſecure Roydoolub to his intereſt, he propoſed giving him a quarter part of whatever they could dupe Meer Jaffier out of.—Theſe, and many other articles, in which his

own

own ambition, cunning, and avaricious views, were the chief motives, he poſitively inſiſted on, and would not be prevailed upon to recede from one article.—Perceiving his obſtinacy would only ruin our affairs, and that we ſhould alarm the jealouſy, and loſe the good opinion, of all people, and that the accompliſhment of his treaty (if agreed to) would take ſome years; Meer Jaffier likewiſe having expreſſed an utter diſtruſt and diſguſt at his being any ways concerned in the treaty, and as delays are dangerous; I therefore, with Petroſe, had a meeting with Meer Jaffier's confidant, who ſets out to-day with the accompanying articles, which he ſays, he is ſure Meer Jaffier will comply with: If the Admiral and Committee therefore approve of them, I requeſt you will get the articles wrote on large thin paper, in cypher; the ſheet to be divided into two columns. On the firſt diviſion the agreement to be wrote in cypher; which is to be ſigned by the Admirals; you, the Committee and Council, affirming in the name of God, and our Saviour, that you will abide by this agreement.—In the ſecond diviſion I ſhall write the agreement in Engliſh; and on the third it will be wrote in Perſian.—Theſe two laſt I ſhall ſign and ſeal when the articles are agreed to.—Meer Jaffier deſires to know your opinion with regard to the operations of war.—He thinks it adviſeable for you to write to the Nabob, that agreeable to his deſire, and on promiſe of his doing the ſame, you had withdrawn your forces. That while his continued in the field, and the Company's buſineſs muſt continue ſtopt, and that they could not think of riſquing their money to the Aurungs, while neither a boat, nor European, could paſs without moleſtation.—You therefore requeſt him, either to comply with his promiſe recalling his troops to the city, or let you know his real ſentiments, that you may take proper meaſures accordingly.—If the Nabob ſhould comply, Meer Jaffier will acquaint you with his ſentiments how further to proceed.—If he refuſes, other meaſures muſt be purſued. I declare ſolemnly before God, that what relates to Omichund is ſtrictly true; and the information of him relating to Rungeet Roy I had from good authority; but I requeſt you will, for the preſent, keep it an inviolable ſecret; you muſt be ſenſible the critical ſituation of our affairs require it.

Articles ſent by Mr. Watts for the approbation of the committee.

1ſt. That Meer Jaffier will confirm all the grants made the Engliſh by the preſent Nabob.

2d. That he will make an alliance with the Engliſh, offenſive and defenſive, againſt all enemies, either country, or European.

3d. Wherever the French are in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, to be delivered up, with all their effects and factories, and they never permitted again to ſettle in either of the ſaid provinces.

4th. On account of the Company's loſſes and expences, to be paid them one crore of rupees.

5th. On account of the loſſes of Europeans, 30 laaks.

6th. On account of Jentoos, 30 laaks.

7th. On account of Armenians, 15 laaks.

8th. On account of Omichund, 30 laaks.

9th. Whatever ground there is within the Calcutta ditch, belonging to the Zemindars, to be given up to the Engliſh, and 600 yards without the ditch all round.

10th. A tract of land, whoſe rents in the Mogul's books amount to 100,000 rupees yearly, to be bought at a reaſonable rate, from the Zemindars, and the Nabob to aſſiſt us in the purchaſe; we paying the annual piſhcaſh or revenues, as uſual, to the Nabob: whatever profit may ariſe from this Zemindary to go towards paying the Engliſh military.

11th. Whenever the Nabob wants the aſſiſtance of our army, the extraordinary expences to be paid by him.

The committee then proceeded to the examination of the foregoing articles. To the firſt four, and the 9th, 10th, and 11th, they make no objection, but rather eſteem them extremely beneficial to our employers; the 5th, 6th, and 7th, it is judged proper to alter, as we do not think the allowances made there, will bear a juſt proportion to the real loſſes of the reſpective people:—The committee therefore think, that the ſum for European loſſes ſhould be increaſed to 50 laaks;—That the ſum for Jentoo loſſes ſhould be reduced to 20 laaks; and the Armenian loſſes to 7 laaks.—Theſe reſpective ſums to be divided among the Europeans, Jentoos, and Armenians, in ſuch manner as ſhall appear moſt equitable to Admirals Watſon and Pocock; and the Select Committee, or the latter alone, ſhould the admirals not be on the ſpot at the time; and that the diſtribution they make, ſhall be liable to no conteſt or appeal.

The article in favour of Omichund, the committee think, ſhould be totally left out, as his behaviour rather merits diſgrace and puniſhment at our hands, than ſuch a ſtipulation in his behalf.—The committee likewiſe think, two other articles ſhould be added; viz.

That the Moors do not fortify by the river ſide, below Houghly.

That the whole of this agreement be fully complied with within one month from his being ſeated as Nabob, at Muxadavad, or any other city, within the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa.

It was then conſidered, how we might deceive Omichund, and prevent a diſcovery of the whole project, which we run the riſque of, ſhould we heſitate or refuſe to inſiſt on the unreaſonable gratification he expects and demands; and on the other hand, it would be highly improper to ſtipulate, much more to demand, with any obſtinacy, ſuch extravagant terms

from Meer Jaffier, for a perſon who can be of no ſervice in the intended revolution; ſo on the other, it would be dangerous to provoke a man of Omichund's character, by ſeeming to take no care at all of his intereſts, and ſlighting his weight and influence, which might prompt him to make a ſacrifice of us, and ruin our affairs entirely.

For theſe reaſons we think it will be neceſſary to form a double treaty, both to be ſigned by Meer Jaffier, and by us; in one of which, the article in favour of Omichund is to be inſerted, in the other, to be left out; and Meer Jaffier is to be informed of that which we deſign to abide by, and eſteem authentic, with our reaſons for taking ſuch a ſtep.

A conference with Meer Jaffier being neceſſary, on this and other accounts, and a difficulty ariſing how to obtain one, without giving ſuſpicion; it is propoſed, that the colonel do write the Nabob a letter, acquainting him that Mr. Scrafton has an affair of great moment to communicate to his private ear; and in order to gain the Nabob's confidence, and incline him to think us ſincere in our friendſhip for him, it is agreed, that Mr. Scrafton carry Balleray's letter to the preſident, and ſhew it the Nabob, on his promiſe of returning it; by which artifice, Mr. Scrafton may have an opportunity, in his way up, to conſer with Meer Jaffier (now encamped near Kiſſnagur) on the following ſubjects; viz.

To ſettle a plan of operation for carrying our project into execution; to perſuade him of the moderation of our demands; to explain to him the part Omichund is acting; and aſſure him of our conſtancy and attachment to his cauſe; that our requeſt for his not fortifying below Houghly, is not on account of any apprehenſions we entertain of his integrity, but to provide againſt any deſigns of his ſucceſſors; and, in fine, that Mr. Scrafton uſe his endeavours to get ſuch ſecurity, as can well be given, without diſcovering the ſcheme, that we may have no room to ſuſpect any treachery.

Roger Drake, Junior.
Robert Clive.
Richard Becher.

Proceedings, 19th May 1757. Fort William, 19th May 1757.

Thurſday, 19th May 1757.

At a Committee; Preſent,

The honourable Roger Drake, Eſquire, Preſident.
James Killpatrick, Eſquire, Richard Becher, Eſquire.

The proceedings of the 17th inſtant, being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and ſigned.

Received a letter from Colonel Clive, incloſing the real and fictitious articles of agreement which he deſires we will ſign, as we may obſerve diſpatch is neceſſary: by the copy of a letter he now ſends for our peruſal, from Mr. Watts, he informs us, there are no alterations to the articles we agreed upon, excepting its being left to Mr. Watts his diſcretion, to demand either a crore, or 50 laaks for the Company, as he finds Meer Jaffier diſpoſed; and an additional article annexed, binding the afore-aid Jaffier Ally Cawn, to the performance of the contract, under the moſt ſolemn oaths; and that we, on our part, will aſſiſt him with our whole force, to eſtabliſh him in the government.

Read, Mr. Watts his letter to the Colonel, dated the 16th inſtant; wherein he informs him, that Meer Jaffier had ſent a blank paper, with his ſeal affixed, for the articles to be wrote on: he recommends the agreement therefore to be returned him with the utmoſt haſte, and every thing will be finiſhed in two hours.

Read, The agreement tranſmitted by Colonel Clive, to be executed by Admiral Watſon, and the Committee; which being approved, was now ſigned.

Ordered, It be entered after this day's proceedings.

Roger Drake, Junior, Richard Becher.

Tranſlation of the treaty executed by Meer Jaffier.
(Wrote in his own hand)

I ſwear by God, and the prophet of God, to abide by the terms of this treaty whilſt I have life.

Meer Mahmud Jaffier Khan Bahadr, Servant of King Aalumgeer.

Treaty made with the Admiral, and Colonel Clive, Sabut Jung Bahadr, and the other Counſellors and Mr. Drake, and Mr. Watts.

1ſt. Whatever articles were agreed upon in the time of peace, with the Nabob Serajah Dowla Munſurulmemalek Shah Kulli Khan Bahadr Hybut Jung, I agree to comply with.

2d. The

2d. The enemies of the Engliſh are my enemies, whether they be Indians or Europeans.

3d. All the effects and factories belonging to the French in the provinces of Bengal (the paradiſe of nations) and Bahar and Oriſſa, ſhall remain in the poſſeſſion of the Engliſh, nor will I ever allow them any more to ſettle in the three provinces.

4th. In conſideration of the loſſes which the Engliſh Company have ſuſtained by the capture and plunder of Calcutta by the Nabob, and the charges occaſioned by the maintenance of their forces, I will give them one crore of rupees.

5th. For the effects plundered from the Engliſh inhabitants of Calcutta, I agree to give 50 laak of rupees.

6th. For the effects plundered from the Jentoos, Muſſulmen, and other ſubjects of Calcutta, twenty laak of rupees ſhall be given.

7th. For the effects plundered from the Armenian inhabitants of Calcutta, I will give the ſum of ſeven laak of rupees.—The diſtribution of the ſum allotted the natives, Engliſh inhabitants, Jentoos, and Muſſulmen, ſhall be left to the Admiral and Colonel Clive, Sabut Jung Bahadr, and the reſt of the Committee, to be diſpoſed of by them, to whom they think proper.

8th. Within the ditch which ſurround the borders of Calcutta, are tracts of land belonging to ſeveral Zemindars, and all the offu, beſides this, I will grant the Engliſh Company ſix hundred yards without the ditch.

9th. All the land lying to the ſouth of Calcutta, as far as Culpee, ſhall be under the Zemindary of the Engliſh Company, and all the officers of thoſe parts ſhall be under their juriſdiction.—The revenues to be paid by them (the Company) in the ſame manner with other Zemindars.

10th. Whenever I demand the Engliſh aſſiſtance, I will be at the charge of the maintenance of them.

11th. I will not erect any new fortifications below Hughly, near the river Ganges.

12th. As ſoon as I am eſtabliſhed in the government of the three provinces, the aforeſaid ſums ſhall be faithfully paid.

Dated 15th Ramzan, in the 4th year of the reign.

Six Letters from Serajah Dowla to the French, and one from Mr. Law.

No. 1. Suppoſed to be wrote the latter end of February 1757.

Serajah Dowlah, to the exalted in ſtation, greateſt among great officers, the ſupport of friendſhip, Monſieur Buſie Bahadre.

The diſturbers of my country, the Admiral and Colonel Clive, Sabut Jung, whom bad fortune attends without any reaſon whatever, are warring againſt Zubdatook Toojah, Monſieur Rennault, the governor of Chandernagore: This you will learn from his letters, I, who in all things ſeek the good of mankind, aſſiſt him in every reſpect, and have ſent him the beſt of my troops that he may join with them and fight the Engliſh; and if it becomes neceſſary, I will join him myſelf. I hope in God, theſe Engliſh who are unfortunate, will be puniſhed for the diſturbances they have raiſed. Be confident, look on my forces as your own. I have wrote you before for two thouſand ſoldiers and muſqueteers, under the command of one or two truſty chiefs: I perſuade myſelf, you have already ſent them as I deſired; ſhould you not I deſire you will do me the pleaſure to ſend them immediately. Further particulars you will learn from Monſieur Rennault. Oblige me with frequent news of your health.

No. 2. Suppoſed to be wrote about the middle of March 1757.

Serajah Dowla, to the diſtinguiſhed of the empire, the ſword of riches, the victorious in war, Monſieur Buſie Bahadre.

I have with great pleaſure received news of your being arrived near the Oriſſa country with a powerful army of ſoldiers, telingas, &c. to the aſſiſtance of the commander of Chandernagore. I promiſe myſelf great pleaſure in ſeeing you; a meeting will confirm the great friendſhip between us. I have ordered the Naibs of the Subah, the Phouſdars and Jemidars of Midnapore, to wait on you, and aſſiſt you in your march.

No. 3. Suppoſed to be wrote the latter end of March 1757.

Serajah Dowla to Monſieur Buſie Bahadre, &c.

I am adviſed, that you are arrived at Echapore: this news gives me pleaſure; the ſooner you come here, the greater ſatisfaction I ſhall have in meeting you.—What can I write of the perfidy of the Engliſh? They have without ground picked a quarrel with Monſieur Rennault, and taken by force his factory: they want now to quarrel with Monſieur Law, your Chief at Coſſimbuzar; but I will take care to oppoſe and overthrow their proceedings: When you come to Ballaſore, I will then ſend Monſieur Law to your aſſiſtance, unleſs you forbid his ſetting out. Reſt aſſured of my good-will towards you and your Company; and to convince you of my ſincerity, I now ſend perwannahs to Didarally, and Ramagee Pundit, and to Razarim Sing, that as ſoon as you may enter the province, that they may meet and lend you all poſſible aſſiſtance, and not on any pretence impede your march. Both at Cuttack Rajah of Ballaſore, and Midnapore.

No.

No. 4. Supposed to be wrote the latter end of March 1757.

Serajah Dowla, to Rajaram Sing.

You write me that Monsieur Busie is arrived at Echapore, 6 days journey on this side Chicacul, and 6 days on the other side Cuttack; this letter I have received: You must obtain good intelligence and employ proper hircarras, and so soon as Monsieur Busie is arrived in your limits, receive him in the politest manner, so that he may be well pleased and satisfied with you: The moment Monsieur Busie arrives, present him the inclosed purwannah: Enquire diligently and inform me, whether he has passed the Chilka. I have wrote to Didarally and Ramagee Pundit, that when Monsieur Busie or his army arrives, they do not impede them.

No. 5. Supposed to be wrote the latter end of April 1757.

Serajah Dowla, to Monsieur Law.

I send you 10,000 rupees for your expences. Remain quiet at Rajamaul: When Monsieur Busie Bahadre, &c. comes on this side Cuttack, I will then send for you.

No. 6. Supposed to be wrote the latter end of April 1757.

Serajah Dowla, to Abdoulla.

I have sent Monsieur Law 10,000 rupees: do you countenance and assist him at Rajahmaul; and when I write for him to come here, do you accompany Monsieur Law:—Write the purport of what I now inform you of, to Mahmud Nazam.

No. 7. Monsieur Law, to Monsieur Bugros, chief of Sydabad.

Je viens de recevoir une Lettre du Nabob, par laquelle il m'ordonne de retourner à Meuxadabad; il veut, dit il, se joindre à nous pour tomber sur les Anglois. J'ai reçu aussi une Lettre du Sieur Changeau, qui me donne d'assez bonnes Nouvelles. Je suis surpris que vous ne m'avez rien, car je ne puis croire que vous soyez tout-a-fait ignorant de ce qui se passe. J'envoye Monsieur de Sinfray au Nabob, avec lequel il est chargé d'entrer en Négotiation. Il a ordre de rester à notre Loge; comme il est votre Ancien, vous aurez la bonté de le reconnoître pour chef, et de lui obeir en cette Qualité. Peut-être irai-je bientôt vous trouver.

J'ai l'honneur d'être,

Du Camp devant Champagnore, le 4me Mai 1757. avec une parfaite Considération,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble,

& très obeissant Serviteur,

Law.

APPENDIX, No. 6.

Letter from Charles Watson, to President, &c. of Select Committee, dated 3d March.

To the President, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

I have the favour of your letter of yesterday's date, acquainting me, the Nabob having signified his dislike to any hostilities being committed on the French within his territories, has occasioned you to alter your opinion of acting offensively against the French within the Ganges; and the French having applied to you, to enter into a neutrality, you have drawn up articles for that purpose, and desire my sentiments and approbation thereon, before you sign it: My approbation you always may depend on, in every thing that will tend to the Company's advantage; how far this neutrality will answer that end, you must be the best judges.—However, as you have desired my sentiments thereon, I have very maturely considered the articles you have drawn up, and am of opinion, the treaty ought not to take place, till such time it is returned from Pondicherry, ratified and confirmed; and then, upon your signifying to me, my observing such a neutrality will be the propereſt step that can be taken for the advantage of the Company's affairs, I shall, upon such a representation, have no objection to giving you my promise thereto.

This would be making a neutrality on the sureſt foundation, that can be obtained in this part of the world; and indeed, upon my hearing the first hints from the French of this design, I did suppose the Committee at Chandernagore was invested with proper powers, to make and confirm such a treaty of themselves, otherwise I should not have listened to them as much as I did: But since I have been assured by the present deputies, they have not those powers, but that the articles must be sent to Pondicherry, to be there ratified and confirmed, I can by no means think of agreeing to such a neutrality, whereby it is so evident, the French will have every advantage, and we subject to every uncertainty. Will they not reap immediate benefit by the neutrality as it now stands? And further, shall we be certain of its being complied with, till it is returned from Pondicherry, ratified and confirmed by the Governor and Council there? This appears to me, to be giving so sensible an advantage to the French, without even a possibility of benefitting by it ourselves, that, with regard to myself, I cannot think of giving my consent to its taking place, till such time we are certain it will be agreed to by the Governor and Council of Pondicherry.

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The 6th says, in order to validate this treaty, and make it more authentic, both parties shall send a Persian form of a guarantee to the Nabob, and use their joint endeavours to prevail on him and some of his principal officers, to sign and swear to the same.

I make no doubt of this being a very proper measure of making the treaty lasting and firm between both nations, provided the objections to the Nabob being properly qualified for such an office, were removed. It is now three weeks since the peace commenced, in which, many articles were promised by him: are they yet complied with? Give me leave to go a little farther, and ask, when they will be complied with? I am afraid it is too difficult a question, to be answered with any degree of exactness. Is it reasonable then to suppose, if the Nabob should sign this guarantee, and swear to the observance of it, that he will pay any more regard to that, than he has done to the fulfilling the several articles of the peace? or is it the policy of this country, to place your confidence in the man who has not observed his word, though bound by the most solemn protestations? If it is, you could not pitch upon a more proper man to guarantee this treaty, than the man you have chose. But as you have desired my sentiments on this matter, I must beg leave to tell you, that I can by no means think the Nabob ought to be addressed on this subject, till he has fulfilled all the articles of the peace; and that appears to me, to be the most necessary business to be hastened, and I think as short time as possible should be given him, for the completing it: If he intends peace, and to continue in friendship with us, he will comply; but if not, he will deal evasibly, to gain time, till he thinks himself strong enough to return here again; therefore it is my opinion, you should acquaint him, unless the articles are complied with by such a time, you should esteem him as an enemy, and act accordingly.

This, gentlemen, from the best reflections I have been able to make, is my sincere opinion of the subject you desired.

Fort William, March 3d 1757. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant, Charles Watson.

P. S. Inclosed, I return you the deputies answer to your articles.

Lord Clive's Letter, dated 4th March 1757.

To the honourable Roger Drake, Esquire, &c. Members of the Select Committee of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

As Mr. Watson has declined accepting the two expedients proposed to him by us, in refusing either to attack Chandernagore immediately, or enter into such a neutrality with the French, as we have recommended to him, and which we think greatly for the benefit of the East-India Company, both in these provinces, and on the coast of Choromandel; I think he has taken the consequences of all miscarriages upon himself; as in so doing, if I am not misinformed, he runs counter to his Majesty's instructions, which require, that he should give attention to all representations made to him by the Company's agents in India, for the good of their service.

This leads me very seriously to consider the situation of the Company's affairs on the coast, and the positive orders I have received from the President and Committee at Madrass, to return at all events with as great a part of the forces under my command as could possibly be spared. This, gentlemen, you are fully acquainted with, and must be sensible, nothing can induce me to risque any longer my return to the coast, now rendered very uncertain by the lateness of the season; but the immediate attack of Chandernagore, become in my opinion, absolutely necessary. If the neutrality be refused, do but reflect, gentlemen, what will be the opinion of the world of these our late proceedings. Did we not, in consequence of a letter received from the Governor and Council of Chandernagore, making offers of a neutrality within the Ganges, in a manner accede to it, by desiring, they would send deputies, and that we would gladly come into such a neutrality with them? And have we not since their arrival, drawn out articles that were satisfactory to both parties; and agreed, that such articles should be reciprocally signed, sealed, and sworn to? What will the Nabob think, after the promises made him on our side, and after his consenting to guarantee this neutrality? he, and all the world will certainly think, that we are men without principles, or that we are men of a trifling insignificant disposition. It is therefore incumbent on us to exculpate ourselves, by declaring the real truth, that we were intirely ignorant of Mr. Watson's intentions to refuse the neutrality in the manner proposed, and settled by us, and that we always thought him of a contrary opinion, to what his letter declares. I am persuaded, these must be the sentiments of the gentlemen of the Committee, or they never would have gone such lengths, as must expose them to the censure of all reasonable and conscientious men.

You may be assured, the instant the French find their offers of neutrality refused, they will immediately assist the Nabob in all his designs against us, if he has the least intentions of not complying with the late articles of peace; it may then be too late to wish Mr. Watson had been pleased to pay more attention to our representations.

Give me leave, gentlemen, further to represent, that though Mr. Watson has done every thing that could be expected from a brave and gallant man, and has been greatly instrumental towards settling the affairs of this province, that our future operations against the Nabob will

chiefly depend upon the land forces; and the officers of ſuch forces muſt certainly be the beſt judges of what can be effected by land; and I do take upon me to give it as mine and my officers opinions, that ſucceſs againſt the Nabob and French together will be very precarious, notwithſtanding the arrival of the Bombay troops, which fell ſhort in real ſtrength of the detachment on board the Cumberland; I muſt therefore requeſt you will join with me, in deſiring Mr. Watſon a third time to ratify the neutrality in the manner agreed upon; and if he refuſes, to deſire he will attack Chandernagore by water immediately, as I am ready to do by land with the forces under my command; and if he refuſes this likewiſe, he becomes reſponſible for every misfortune that may happen to the Eaſt India Company's affairs.

This done, I propoſe leaving all the forces I can poſſibly ſpare for the defence of the Company's ſettlements, rights, and privileges, in Bengal, and return with the reſt immediately to the coaſt, agreeable to the poſitive orders received from the Preſident and Committee of Madraſs; and I muſt requeſt you will order proper conveyances for that purpoſe.

I am, with great reſpect, Gentlemen
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
Robert Clive.

Calcutta,
4th March 1757.

Two Letters from Charles Watſon, dated 7th and 12th March 1757.

Saturday, 12th March, Fort William, the 12th March 1757.

At a Committee; Preſent,
The honourable Roger Drake, Eſquire,
Meſſieurs Clive and Killpatrick.

Gentlemen,

I have the favour of your letter of yeſterday's date, acquainting me of your having received a letter from Mr. Watts, with one incloſed from the Nabob, which had occaſioned ſome alteration in your opinions. I beg leave to acquaint you, I alſo received a letter yeſterday from the Nabob, by which I do imagine, it's poſſible yet to obtain his conſent to attack the French; therefore, I immediately anſwered his letter, and ſtrongly preſſed him for his permiſſion, which if he ſhould grant, I am very ready to give you all the aſſiſtance in my power for reducing the French, and attacking them wherever there is a proſpect of ſucceeding.

You muſt be very ſenſible, that ſome time ſince, on your application to me for attacking Chandernagore by land and ſea, I aſſembled a council of war, when it was agreed to put it in execution; and I was juſt upon the point of proceeding up the river, but you again altered your opinion, and from your repreſentations it would be then prejudicial to the Company's affairs, I deſiſted.

As ſoon as I hear from the Nabob, I will do myſelf the pleaſure to give you an anſwer to the part of your letter, relating to the neutrality.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,
Charles Watſon.

Fort William,
7th March 1757.

Gentlemen,

I have received your favour of this day's date, acquainting me with your motives and reaſons for altering your ſentiments in relation to your conduct with the French, and now deſiring the aſſiſtance of his Majeſty's ſquadron to attack Chandernagore.

You may be aſſured, I ſhall moſt readily give you all the aſſiſtance I can in this enterprize, and am heartily glad in the preſent circumſtances I am in, of having received his Majeſty's declaration of war againſt France, with orders from the right honourable the Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty to put the ſame in execution, that this ſtep is judged a right meaſure.

The moment the pilots think it ſafe to move the large ſhips, I ſhall proceed up the river, and am,

Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient, humble ſervants,
Charles Watſon

Fort William,
12th March 1757.

Laſt Paragraph of Colonel Clive's Letter to the Secret Committee, dated Auguſt 22, 1757.

—Mr. Watſon is no more; every one here received the melancholy news of his death with much concern. His generoſity, diſintereſtedneſs, and zeal for the ſervice, muſt for ever endear his memory to the Company. Unhappy fate! after having eſcaped all the riſques of war, to be thus untimely cut off in the midſt of his ſucceſſes, crowned with glory and reputation! This is but one of the many leſſons given us of the inſtability of human nature.—Concern for this good man's death haſtens me to a concluſion, and I have only to aſſure you, I am with the greateſt reſpect,

Honourable Sirs,
Your moſt obliged, humble ſervant,
Robert Clive.

Calcutta,
22d Auguſt 1757.

APPENDIX, No. 7.

Copy of a Letter to Lord Clive, for the Delivery of Part of the Correſpondence held by him with the Country Powers in Bengal.

My Lord,

In your Lordſhip's anſwer to a letter, which I had the honour to write to you in October laſt, by order of the gentlemen in the direction concerning the country correſpondence, from the 24th January 1759, to the time your Lordſhip left India, you were pleaſed to ſignify, that you propoſed being in town in a few days, and would then lay before them any books or papers, which the gentlemen might think any ways ſerviceable to the cauſe of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company; at the ſame time, your Lordſhip intimated, that to the beſt of your remembrance, you were in poſſeſſion of the country correſpondence, to the time of your leaving India in February 1760, but that there were one or two material ſections miſlaid, which you had made diligent ſearch after ſome time ago, but did not deſpair of finding them upon a farther enquiry.

As your Lordſhip has not yet tranſmitted this correſpondence to the Company, which they are adviſed is abſolutely neceſſary to be examined and conſidered in forming their anſwer to the bill preferred by your Lordſhip againſt them in the Court of Chancery, as well as that the Company are, from withholding this correſpondence, left entirely in the dark with reſpect to more than a whole year's tranſactions, and at a very material criſis, with the country powers; I am therefore, in conſequence of a reſolution of the Court of Directors, to deſire your Lordſhip will forthwith deliver to the Company, the whole of the before mentioned correſpondence, together with all books, writings, and papers whatſoever, in your Lordſhip's poſſeſſion, which in any wiſe relate to, or concern, the Company's affairs, agreeably to the covenants entered into between the Company and your Lordſhip.

I am, with the greateſt reſpect, My Lord,
Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient,
and moſt humble ſervant,
Robert James, Secretary.

East India Houſe,
the 12th Auguſt 1763.

Letter from Lord Clive, that he will ſend his Country Correſpondence mentioned in the Secretary's Letter, of the 12th Auguſt, as ſoon as he makes a Tranſcript thereof.

SIR,

The country correſpondence mentioned in your letter of the 12th Auguſt laſt, is tranſcribing and is not yet finiſhed; the moment the tranſcript is made, the original ſhall be delivered to you.

As to the ſections miſlaid, they were delivered by me in September or October 1760, to Mr. Campbell, in order to prepare a memorial concerning the Dutch affairs to be laid before Mr. Pitt, the then Secretary of State; and from that time to this, I have not had or ſeen them; and although I have made the beſt enquiry after them I can, I have not yet been able to come at them, or find out where they are: But I can aſſure the Court of Directors from my own knowledge, that there is nothing contained in thoſe ſections, which can any ways affect the matter in diſpute between the Eaſt India Company and myſelf; and if the Court of Directors are deſirous of having any farther ſatisfaction, that may be had, I believe, on applying to Mr. Campbell, who is acquainted with the contents of the miſſing ſections.

As to the demand of the Court of Directors, that I ſhall produce all books, papers, and writings, whatſoever, in my poſſeſſion, agreeable to the covenants entered into between the Company and me; I muſt obſerve to you, Sir, that thoſe covenants extend only to the commercial affairs of the Company; in which I had little or no concern; however, I am ſearching for all papers in my cuſtody, relative to affairs of this kind, which I will deliver to the Court of Directors; and although I am not (as I am adviſed) obliged to produce any books or papers, other than ſuch as relate to the commercial affairs I have mentioned, yet I am ready to produce any other books, papers, or writings, in my cuſtody or power, relative to any of the affairs of the Company, if the Court of Directors will be pleaſed to ſpecify the particular books, writings, or papers, they deſire to inſpect.

I am, Sir,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
Clive.

Berkeley Square,
September 12th 1763.

The Preſident to the Seats, dated 31ſt January 1759. No. 281.

I always underſtood, that when you had procured me the ſunnod for a 6,000 munſub and 5,000 horſe, with the title of Zubit al Mulk Nazier ad Doula, that the Nabob would have favoured me with a jaguire, equal to the rank I received by my ſunnod; but to this day I have not heard a word from him concerning it. As this is an affair of my own, I have not choſe to addreſs the Nabob thereon now. As there is a ſtrong friendſhip ſubſiſting between you and me, I beg leave to give you the trouble to apply to the Nabob concerning this affair, and that I may have a jaguire equal to my rank.

From the Seats to the Preſident. No Date: Received 20th February 1759.

Your two obliging letters, one anſwering ours which accompanied ſome apples to you; the other, that you underſtood when we had procured you a munſub and titles, that the Nabob would have favoured you with a jaguire, equal to the rank you received by your ſunnod, but that to the writing of your letter, you had not heard from him concerning it; that on account

of

of the friendſhip ſubſiſting between us, you deſired we would apply to the Nabob and procure it, we have with great pleaſure received, and are rejoiced to hear you are in good health, for which we return God thanks: Agreeable to your orders, we addreſſed the Nabob to give you a jaguire; he has long determined not to grant jaguires in the ſubahſhip of Bengal; Oriſſa is poor, but if it is agreeable to you to have one in the ſubahſhip of Bahar, it will be immediately granted you; of this I thought proper to adviſe you. Pleaſe to acquaint us with your reſolution on this affair. We are going to a place of devotion with all our family in a day or two, accompanied by ſome of the Nabob's forces. By the favour of God we hope to return in ſix weeks.

No 326. The Preſident to Shah Allum Bahadre, Son of Allum Guire, Baudſhah, and Succeſſor of the Empire, dated 27th February 1759.

I have had the honour to receive your Highneſs's firmaund; it gives me great concern to find that this country muſt undergo a ſcene of troubles.—I beg leave to inform you, that I have been favoured with a ſunnod from the Emperor, appointing me a Munſubdar of the rank of 6000 and of 5000 horſe, which conſtitutes me a ſervant of his; and as I have not received any orders, either from the Emperor or the Vizier, acquainting me of your coming down here, I cannot pay that due regard to your Highneſs's orders which I would otherwiſe wiſh to do.

I muſt further beg leave to inform you, that I am under the ſtricteſt engagements with the preſent Subah of theſe provinces, to aſſiſt him at all times, and it is not the cuſtom of the Engliſh nation to be guilty of inſincerity.

APPENDIX, No. 8.

From the Seats to the Preſident. No Date: Received 4th June 1759.

Some time ago we were favoured with an obliging letter from you to this purport, that you had been honoured with a munſub, of the rank of 6000, and the command of 5000 horſe from the preſence; and that we, who are your faithful ſervants, had procured you the ſunnod, but that as yet no jaguire had been granted for the ſame, and deſiring that we would addreſs the Nabob as we thought proper on that affair, and procure the jaguire, which would give you ſatisfaction.—Agreeable to your orders we often reminded him of it, and he himſelf was contriving about it; we have lately addreſſed him again, and he informs us, that he has pitched on a place for your jaguire in the ſubahſhip of Bengal; and by the bleſſing, when you return to this city, an account thereof will be delivered to you. On this we roſe and paid the uſual compliment on this occaſion. We, who are your ſincere friends and well-wiſhers, hope to be favoured with an account of your health.

APPENDIX, No. 9.

Mr. Holwell's Addreſs to Mr. Vanſittart, 4th Auguſt 1760.

Fort William the 4th Auguſt 1760.

Monday. At a Select Committee; Preſent,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
William Brightwell Sumner, Eſq;
John Zephaniah Holwell, Eſq;
William M'Guire, Eſq;

Read, approved, and ſigned the proceedings of the 28th ult.

Agreeable to the Preſident's Requeſt, Mr. Holwell now lays before the Committee a ſhort Addreſs, with ſuch Remarks, and Memorials, as may convey to the Preſident a Knowledge of the preſent Situation of the Company's Affairs in theſe Provinces.

" Honourable Sir and Sirs, Dated 4th Auguſt.

" As my health, and the conſideration of other circumſtances, will ſoon oblige me to re-
" queſt permiſſion from the board to reſign the ſervice, I beg leave, previous to that ſtep, to
" accompany this ſhort addreſs with ſuch remarks and memorials as may convey to the ho-
" nourable the Preſident (ſo lately arrived amongſt us) a knowledge of the preſent ſtate and
" ſituation of the Company's affairs, as they ſtand connected with, or depend on, the govern-
" ment of Bengal.

" To form a judgment of the preſent ſtate of things in Bengal, it will be needful to retro-
" ſpect on the late revolution of the year 1757, when neceſſity, and a juſt reſentment for the
" moſt cruel injuries, obliged us to enter into a plan to deprive Surajah Dowla of his govern-
" ment; which was accordingly done, and Mir Mahomed Ally Khan fixed, by us, at the
" head of the provinces, on certain conditions, and under treaty of alliance, offenſive and
" defenſive.

" A ſhort ſpace of time fully proved how unworthy the family thus raiſed: The conditions
" of the treaty could not be obtained from the Nabob without being in a manner extorted
" from him; and by a thouſand ſhifts and evaſions, it was plain to the world no ſingle article
" would ever have been complied with, had the Nabob been inveſted with power ſufficient to
" have prevented it, or could he have diveſted himſelf of his own fears and apprehenſions
" from our reſentments.

" Tankas on the lands were however granted for the payment of the ſtipulated ſums, at
" particular times, by which the Roy-Royen Dewans, Mutſuddies, and every harpy employed
" in the zemindary and revenue, became our implacable enemies; and conſequently,

" A party

" A party was ſoon raiſed at the Durbar, headed by the Nabob's ſon, Miram, and Rajah-
" bullub, who were daily planning ſchemes to ſhake off their dependance on the Engliſh, and
" continually urging to the Nabob, that until this was effected his government was a name
" only: The Nabob, ſomething irritated by the protection given Rajah Doolubram, and
" weak and irreſolute in himſelf, fell too ſoon into theſe ſentiments.

" The firſt ſtep taken to accompliſh this meaſure of independence, was to aſſaſſinate, or take
" off, under one pretence or other, every miniſter and officer at the Durbar, whom they knew
" were attached to the Engliſh. In conſequence of which Coza Hoddy, and Cuzzum Ally
" Khan, firſt and ſecond Buxy, were aſſaſſinated in November and December 1758, and after
" many attempts made on the perſons of Rheim Khan, Golam Shaw, his uncle and brother,
" they were at laſt obliged to ſeek an aſylum with the Sha Zadah, 1759.—Roydoolub, his
" ſon, and four brothers were proſcribed, on no account but that of the various informations
" he gave us, and his firm attachment. This family would have fallen a ſacrifice, had they
" not been reſcued out of the Nabob's hands by force of arms. Amier Beg Khan would from
" the ſame cauſe have ſuffered the ſame fate, had he not given his ſolemn engagement to quit
" the kingdom; which he accordingly did.

" The next project of the Durbar appeared by every concurring ſubſequent circumſtance,
" to be a ſecret negociation with the Dutch, for tranſporting troops from Batavia into theſe
" provinces, that with their united force a ſtop might be put to the power of the Engliſh.
" This ſcheme was conducted by Raja Ragebullub, on the one part, and Foocratoojar, for the
" Dutch, on the other, about October or November 1758, the period when the Decan expedi-
" tion took place, and the garriſon was much reduced.

" Soon after, the provinces were invaded by the Sha Zadah, on the ſide of Patna, and
" Colonel Clive, with our military, and Seapoys, joined the Nabob and his troops, and by
" forced marches preſerved Rajah Ramarrain ſteady in his duty, and arrived juſt in time to
" ſave that city and province, and drive the prince, though the undoubted heir to the king-
" dom, beyond the Curramnaſſar, and brought the Budgepore, &c. countries into ſubjection
" to the Nabob.

" The prince more than once wrote to the Colonel, offering any terms for the Company,
" and himſelf on condition the Engliſh would quit the Nabob, and join his arms; but the
" Colonel thinking it incompatible with our treaty with the Nabob gave the prince no en-
" couragement.

" At the end of the campaign the Colonel returned to us in June 1759, and the two Nabobs
" arrived at the city, about the ſame time, with full conviction of our firm attachment to his
" government and family, and our religious regard to our treaties.—What ſenſe they retained
" of theſe obligations, and how long, will appear by and by.

" The Nabobs, thinking themſelves now better eſtabliſhed in the government, and ſcreened
" by ſuch a ſure and powerful ſupport as our arms, began to ſet no bounds to their cruelties,
" oppreſſions, and exactions from thoſe who had any thing to be plundered of.—And this
" barely received a check from the ſevere and frequent remonſtrances of Colonel Clive to the
" Nabob, on a conduct which he foretold him, muſt, from the general deteſtation of his people,
" end in the deſtruction of himſelf, family, and country.—His troops, clamorous at the ſame
" time for their pay, whilſt the Nabob, in place of appropriating the ſums he had acquired by
" repeated aſſaſſinations, to the juſt demands of his jemmautdars and troops, laviſhed the
" ſame in boundleſs extravagancies.

" About the latter end of July 1759, the young Nabob arrived, on a pretended viſit to
" Colonel Clive; but the real motive was to negociate, if poſſible, the delivery of Rajarage
" Doolubram, and two or three other articles given him in charge by his father; ſuch as the
" ſurrender of the tanka lands on ſecurity; the borrowing of us a large ſum of money; &c.
" In theſe, the ſon proving unſucceſsful, a member of the Board, and Select Committee was,
" at his deſire, ſent to accompany him to the city, to reconcile the Nabob to the negatives
" his ſon had received at Calcutta; and at the ſame time to intimate to him the advice we
" had received, that a large armament was fitting out at Batavia, deſtined for Bengal, and to
" penetrate, if poſſible, his ſentiments on this occaſion, and what reſolutions he would come
" to, in caſe that force arrived in the river.

" He was not to be reconciled to the refuſals his ſon had met, but determined to try his
" own power, and declared his intention to pay the Colonel a viſit himſelf in September;
" which he did, with ſucceſs equal to his ſon. He ſeemed to make light of the Dutch intelli-
" gence, and not to give credit to it, though he diſcovered much perplexity. However, he
" wrote a letter to the Colonel, demanding our aſſiſtance, by virtue of the treaty of alliance,
" in caſe the Dutch troops came into the river.

" The armament arrived during his viſit; his ſtay after that was ſhort; his mind ſeemed
" much embarraſſed, and his whole ſubſequent conduct gave moſt undoubted proofs, that the
" Dutch forces were arrived by his invitation. That ſuch were the ſentiments of Colonel Clive
" and the council, appears from the narrative of that Dutch buſineſs, tranſmitted to the honour-
" able the Court of Directors, and to our ſeveral admirals. A peruſal of this narrative will
" convince the impartial, that the Nabob, in his behaviour on this occaſion, was guilty of a
" moſt flagitious breach of the article of the treaty of alliance, and that from the period, no
" terms whatever ſhould have been preſerved with him, after ſuch unexampled treachery and
" ingratitude. To which, by way of illuſtration, we may add the ſubſequent farces carried

" on between the Nabobs and the Dutch, as ſet forth in the ſeveral letters between Mr. Hol-
" well, and the Reſident, at Morauxbag, on this ſubject, by reference to which it will appear
" moſt manifeſt, that the Nabob's real intentions never were to diſtreſs effectually that people,
" but on the contrary were only aimed to amuſe and deceive us; witneſs the private orders
" and inſtructions given to Mhir Coſſim Aly Khan, ſo oppoſite to his public ones, when he was
" ſent down to demoliſh the new works at Chinſura; in the apparent delays of this ſervice,
" Coſſim Aly Khan ſuffered much in the opinion of the late Preſident, tho' unjuſtly, as we
" ſubſequently learnt he was acting conformable to the private orders of the Nabob.

" In the beginning of the year 1760, the Sha Zadda invaded the provinces again with a
" force more reſpectable than the preceding year, both in troops and commanders, by the re-
" volt of Camgaar Khan, Golam Shaw, Reim Khan, and others; the Nabob, by this time,
" having made himſelf and family ſo univerſally hated, that we may juſtly ſay there was
" hardly a man in the provinces, that did not wiſh ſucceſs to the Prince.

" Colonel Clive reſigned the government early in February 1760, about which time the
" Mharattas entered the province, from the ſouthward, and penetrated into the Burdeman
" country, making a conſiderable diverſion in favour of the Prince. The Nabob demanded
" a body of our troops, Sepoys, and field artillery, for the defence of this country, to join
" his, under the command of Mhir Coſſim Aly Khan, which was granted; but their uſe was
" fruſtrated by the Nabob's puſillanimous, irregular, and contradictory, orders to his General,
" Coſſim Aly Khan, to march with our troops to Cutwah, and the city, in place of marching
" directly to the ſouthward. Thus this country fell a prey to the Mharattas, and a ſtop was
" put to the collecting our tankas, on which was our greateſt dependence and expectation, for
" the ſervice of the year (Vide Military Correſpondence in the months of February and March
" 1760.)

" Our troops, under the command of Major Caillaud, had taken the field in conjunction
" with the Nabob's, under command of his ſon, ſome time before the Colonel's departure
" for Europe, and ſhaped their rout towards Patna, whilſt the Nabob himſelf remained in
" the neighbourhood of Rajambol, a check on Cuddein Hoſſein Khan, Nabob of Purnea
" (then in rebellion) until Subut's advance recalled him to the city.

" A regular and particular detail of the tranſactions of this laborious campaign will not be
" expected here, as the progreſs of it will preſent itſelf in the courſe of the military correſ-
" pondence laid before the Committee; therefore remarks on the ſucceſs, effects, and pro-
" bable conſequences, will be ſufficient.

" This, like the former ones, has produced no definitive action, or ſtroke, to lay the leaſt
" foundation of a peace to theſe provinces. In the courſe of this campaign three morally ſure
" and important opportunities were loſt, by the cowardice of both the Nabobs; the firſt,
" when the young Nabob refuſed to join the Major in the immediate purſuit of the Sha
" Zaddah, when routed near Patna; the ſecond, when the old Nabob refuſed to comply with
" the Major's earneſt requeſt and demand, to croſs his horſe over the Burdowan river, and
" attack the Prince, when united with Subut, &c. the third, when in the late purſuit of
" Cuddein Hoſſein Khan, the young Nabob refuſed to lead or detach his horſe to the Ma-
" jor's aſſiſtance, by which a general action might have been brought on; but, on the con-
" trary, he kept encamped two or three miles in the Major's rear, as if his intentions were
" to leave our troops without horſe, a ſacrifice to the enemy. Had the moſt been made of
" either of theſe favourable occaſions, the ſtroke had, in all human probability, been deciſive;
" as it is, it only proves, that we continue to draw our ſwords in ſupport of a family moſt
" unworthy the government they have by our aſſiſtance uſurped; and this to the manifeſt
" hazard and ruin of the Company's trade and concerns.

" On the near approach of the Major to Patna he received a phirmaund from the Prince,
" of which he adviſed the Board, and promiſed to forward a copy; but no wonder, that in
" the courſe of ſo extraordinary and fatiguing a campaign, it ſhould eſcape his memory. On
" his arrival in the Beerboen country, after the unexpected march he formed upon his defeat,
" the Preſident received intelligence, that the old Nabob had actually a Vakeel in the Sha
" Zaddah's camp, and that he was negociating a ſeparate treaty with him: This appeared to
" have ſo dangerous a tendency, that any means were eligible to obtain the truth of it.

" The late Preſident, by a third hand, procured Aſſud Jumma Khan, Rajah of Beerboen,
" and his uncle, Comgaar Khan, to be wrote to on this ſubject, of the Nabob's Vakeel and
" treaty: this ſoon produced a phirmaund from the Prince, incloſing copy of the Nabob's
" arzdaſht: the Preſident made no reply to the phirmaund, but returned a ſhort one to Com-
" gaar Khan's letter, which accompanied the phirmaund, intimating, that copies carried little
" validity where originals were in being.

" A few days before the Prince began his retreat from the hills, the Preſident received a
" ſecond phirmaund from him, incloſing original arzdaſht from the Nabob: all that can be
" ſaid for or againſt belief being given either to the authenticity of the copy or original, will
" appear on the face of the correſpondence, in two letters from the Preſident to the Major,
" under dates the 22d and 24th April laſt, and to Mr. Haſtings, the 20th of the ſame month.
" To theſe we may further remark, that if they are forgeries, they have yet this corroborat-
" ing ſignature of truth, that the whole tenor of the Nabob's conduct moſt exactly tallies
" with the terms of the arzdaſht. But to reſume the courſe of the campaign to the preſent time:

" Patna is relieved and ſecure for the preſent. Cuddein Hoſſein Khan is diſpoſſeſſed of

" his

" his government, and drove out of the country, but with all his treaſure and valuable effects, " to the reproach and infamy of the young Nabob's memory; ſo that after the rains he will " eaſily join the Prince with the eſſentials of war, which he only wants to harraſs the pro- " vinces five years longer. The young Nabob is taken off by a flaſh of lightning, and our " troops are gone into quarters, after having done as much, or more, than could have been " expected, from men ſo wretchedly ſupported by thoſe very people, for whoſe preſervation " they endured every diſtreſs and fatigue, and braved variety of deaths.

" The Prince has found means to preſerve himſelf and forces a footing on this ſide the " Soane, and in the neighbourhood of Patna. It is ſaid Comgaar Khan has forſaken the " cauſe of the Prince; which appears moſt improbable, not only on account of his having no " other chance for reimburſing himſelf, but becauſe we have undoubted intelligence that " 3,000 of his troops have lately joined his nephew, Aſſud Jemma Khan, who has thrown " off his allegiance to the Nabob. Theſe troops are doubtleſs lodged to make an early and " important diverſion, at the opening of the next campaign, by entering the Burdwan " country, as ſoon as the Prince begins to be in motion above; and thus our ſupplies from " thence will be again cut off, and the Company's affairs be reduced to the laſt extremity of " diſtreſs, unleſs the approaching ſhips of the ſeaſon relieve us, or the whole tankas of thoſe " lands could be collected during the rains. The latter is hardly poſſible in any ſerviceable " degree, and the former carry very little probability. The late propoſal of the Nabob's, to " pay our balances, and reſume his lands, is devoutly to be wiſhed; but it is likewiſe to be " feared he has no meaning in it.

" The various reaſons urged againſt the meaſure of ſupporting the preſent government " longer on the plan we have been ſome time purſuing, to the heavy injury of the Company, " with various expedients to reſcue them from manifeſt approaching ruin, are ſet forth at " large in the military correſpondence, in letters from the Preſident to Major Caillaud, under " dates the 24th and 25th of May, 14th June, and 3d July, to Mr. Amyatt, under date, the " 25th and 30th May, and 1ſt July; both the reaſons and expedients of the preſent ſtate of " affairs, ſeem rather to confirm than contraindicate any other. However, the ſudden death " of the Nabob (if made a proper uſe of) ſeems to point out a middle way, if things are not " gone too far already, to admit of any other than the diveſting this family of the govern- " ment altogether. Vide the Preſident's letter to Mr. Haſtings, of the 16th of laſt month, " and to Major Caillaud, of the 26th, on the ſubject of a ſucceſſor to the young Nabob's " poſts.

" Reſpecting all matters relative to the Dutch and the Nabob, the Dutch and us, the " tanka's, and obſtructions raiſed by the Nabob on our collecting them, as alſo the late ſecret " treaty between the Nabob and the Mharattas, &c. they will appear on the face of the cor- " reſpondence without exaggeration."

Ordered, That the foregoing narrative do lay upon the table, for the peruſal of the ſeveral members of the Committee.

Henry Vanſittart.
William B. Sumner.
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, September the 11th. 1760.

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Lieutenant Colonel John Caillaud. John Zeph. Holwell, Eſquire.
William B. Sumner, Eſquire. William M'Guire, Eſquire.

Read, approved, and ſigned, the proceedings of the 28th ultimo.

Colonel Caillaud arrives from Patna.

Colonel Caillaud informs the Committee that he left Patna the 31ſt of laſt month, at which time the Prince was at Dowdnagore, on this ſide the Soane; that all the reports of his croſſing it were over; and that Monſieur Laws, with Mawdarah Dawlett were preparing to repaſs the river and join him. It was ſaid, their next motion would be towards Camdar Khan, with whom the operations of the next campaign were to be ſettled.

Thoughts on the preſent State of Affairs.

Before we reſolve upon a plan of future operations, we will attempt a deſcription of the ſtate the Company's affairs are now in, and this not to be confined to Bengal, but with regard alſo to the exigencies of the other ſettlements, who are told to depend on this for ſupplies of money:— our influence increaſing from time to time ſince the revolution brought about by Colonel Clive, ſo have we been obliged to increaſe our force to ſupport that influence. We have now more than a thouſand Europeans, and five thouſand ſeapoys, which, with the contingent expences of an army, is far more than the revenues allotted for their maintenance. This deficiency was not ſo much attended to whilſt the immenſe ſums ſtipulated by the treaty were coming in; but theſe reſources being now quite exhauſted, and no ſupplies of money coming from Europe, it becomes immediately neceſſary to ſecure to the Company ſuch an income as will bear them clear of charges, and bring in, beſides, a ſupply for the emergencies of their other ſettlements, and for providing cargoes for loading home their ſhips.—The firſt queſtion then that naturally occurs is this:

Whether that great force is wanted? That a leſs force would ſecure the ſettlement of Fort William, with its former bounds, againſt every thing that is now in the country, is

not

not to be doubted; but it is as certain, that nothing but that influence and weight, which we maintain by the largeneſs of our force, can poſſibly prevent the well known deſigns of the two principal European powers, who have long ſhared with us the benefit of the trade of this country; and to this we may add, that the nearer we approach to a peace in Europe, the nearer we are to our danger here.

Theſe conſiderations having their due weight, we believe few will diſpute the neceſſity of keeping up our preſent force, perhaps augmenting it: this granted, it follows, that means muſt be found within ourſelves of ſupporting the expence; and theſe means can be no other, than a proportionable ſhare of the revenues of the country.

By the treaty made with the preſent Nabob, he is obliged, as often as it may be requiſite for our troops to take the field, to furniſh a lack of rupees a month for their expence; but the uncertainty of this payment has been too long experienced to be any more depended on; nor indeed is it by any means ſufficent to anſwer the purpoſe, ſuppoſing the payments regularly made: it muſt therefore be propoſed to the Nabob, to aſſign to the Company a much larger income, and to aſſign it in ſuch a full and ample manner, by giving to the Company the ſole right of ſuch diſtricts, as lay moſt convenient for our management; that we may no longer be ſubject to the inconveniences we experienced from the late tuncaws, being orders only on a certain part of the revenues.—From the experienced weakneſs and unſteadineſs of the Nabob himſelf, and the nature of thoſe dependants who now rule him, and who by ſelf-intereſted views muſt naturally oppoſe every increaſe of our power, as their own will of courſe be proportionably leſſened; it is to be ſuppoſed, that ſuch a propoſal would meet with all the difficulties that could poſſibly be thrown in our way. Notwithſtanding thoſe difficulties, we will ſuppoſe we ſhould have weight enough to over-rule his counſellors, and to obtain his conſent. We then juſt keep our preſent footing. We have a fund for paying our troops; and thoſe troops muſt be employed in the ſervice of the Nabob and this ſervice, the ſame as for theſe two laſt years in oppoſing the Sha Zaddah, whoſe deſigns upon theſe provinces it is almoſt certain will be purſued.

From the experience of theſe two years, it is pretty clear that our troops, although always victorious in the field, yet they cannot, by their ſucceſs, put an end to the troubles: the ſame cauſe which has prevented it ſtill exiſts; the nature of thoſe people, in alliance with whom we are to act, who will not purſue the advantages we gain; and we not having the means in our power, for want of a body of cavalry under our command.—Thus the war may be protracted for years to come; and every year the Nabob's circumſtances grow worſe and worſe, through an increaſe of expence and loſs of revenue, not only by the devaſtations the enemy make, but by the continual defection of ſome of his own Rajahs and dependants: many in the courſe of the two laſt years have declared themſelves; and that others are ripe for doing the ſame is not to be doubted, particularly the Rajah of Beerboon, in a letter the Governor lately received from him, has ſpoke his ſentiments very freely. The province of Patna is already ſo much reduced by the two laſt campaigns, as to be incapable of affording ſubſiſtence to the Prince any longer, who muſt always find on the ſpot the means of carrying on the war, having no reſources within himſelf; and who conſequently muſt, through neceſſity, attempt next year to penetrate further into Bengal; and in this he will no doubt by the ſucceſs which attended his laſt year's incurſion as far as Burdwan.

It is therefore next to be conſidered, whether it is beſt for the intereſt of the Nabob to purſue the preſent meaſures, by continuing to oppoſe the Sha Zaddah, or to ſupport him in his pretenſions to the crown of Delhi:—The two parties ſtill ſubſiſt, between whom the throne is diſputed, or rather who ſhall give a king to that throne.—One of thoſe parties has repeatedly invited the Sha Zaddah to him; and it is well known what offers he has made both to the Nabob and us for our aſſiſtance: the ſame reaſons may be ſuppoſed yet to have their weight with him while the diſpute remains undecided; and is it not probable that ſuch an aſſiſtance given to the prince and thrown into Abdallah's ſcale, would inſure the ſucceſs of the enterprize? The immediate conſequence of this to Bengal would be clearing the country of an enemy, by removing the cauſe whence all the late troubles and confuſion have aroſe; and if we with reaſon flatter ourſelves we ſhould ſucceed, what advantages may not the Company expect.

Suppoſing this change of meaſures does not appear to the Nabob in the light we have repreſented, it is to be conſidered whether the exigencies of the Company's affairs before deſcribed, do not require our forming ſuch connections independently of him, as may over-rule the advice and ſway of his creatures and miniſters.

The unfortunate death of the young Nabob having created a number of ſeparate intereſts, which it is impoſſible to conciliate to the ſatisfaction of all, and thereby gives the faireſt opportunity to any other European power to gain a party to ſupport them in their deſigns of eſtabliſhing an influence here, is an inducement to make us follow ſuch a ſyſtem, as will put this the moſt out of their power.

The ſhare of influence we now enjoy in theſe provinces, however great in appearance, does not carry with it thoſe real advantages and weighty effects which are neceſſary not to leave that power in danger of being diſputed, and of failing us at a time when we moſt want it; and nothing is more probable than that that period will happen on a peace, to prevent the evil conſequences of this: there ſeems now to offer ſuch an opportunity of ſecuring to

ourſelves

ourſelves all we could wiſh in this reſpect, as likely may never happen again; an opportunity that will give us both power and right.

Another principal motive that urges us to think of changing our ſyſtem, is the want of money; a want that is not confined to ourſelves alone, but on which greatly depend,

The operations on the coaſt,

The reduction of Pondicherry, and

The proviſion of an inveſtment for loading home the next year's ſhips at all the three preſidencies.

It is hardly to be doubted but the Sha Zaddah would be willing to enter into a negociation with us, independent of the Nabob; but ſuch a meaſure would neither be for the intereſt nor the honour of our nation. Our views in adopting this ſyſtem, ſhould be directed rather to ſtrengthen, than weaken or overthrow the preſent Subah:—all we deſire, is to ſee the power removed out of the hands of that ſet of men, who now rule and direct the affairs of the Subah, and through whoſe miſmanagement and frauds the country and his adminiſtration ſuffer ſo conſiderably. To have ſuch a ſhare of power inveſted in the Company, as will enable them to prevent the bad conſequences of ſo many contending intereſts, that will effectually put a ſtop to that diſſipation of revenues, which hath reduced the Nabob to his preſent diſtreſſed condition; which revenue, if properly applied, would leave him nor us any thing to fear from the deſigns of any enemy; effectually ſecure to us ſuch a fund as would anſwer all our preſent exigencies; and in time prove an encreaſe of honour and advantage to the nation and the Company.

Henry Vanſittart.
Wm. B. Sumner.
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, Sept. 15th 1760.

At a Select Committee; Preſent,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Colonel Caillaud, J. Zephaniah Holwell,
Wm. Brightwell Sumner, William M^cGwire, Eſqrs.

Read, approved, and ſigned, the proceedings of the 11th inſtant.

The Difficulties on both Sides conſidered.

The great objects of our preſent deliberation are, firſt, the ſecuring a fund of money for the preſent and future exigencies of this ſettlement, as well as the other two preſidencies, no money being expected from Europe; and, ſecondly, the putting an end to the diſturbances fomented and kept up by the Sha Zaddah in ſeveral parts of theſe provinces: that the whole may be united under the Nabob, and he put under the more immediate influence of the Company, whoſe force is his chief ſupport and dependance. By this means enabling us to join a large body of country troops to our own, to oppoſe any attempts of European or country powers.

The queſtion to be conſidered is, Whether we can beſt arrive at theſe ends by following the preſent ſyſtem of oppoſing the Sha Zaddah, or by propoſing to him an alliance with the Engliſh, and the aſſiſtance of part of our forces to proceed with him to Delhi, and ſupport him in his pretenſions to the throne.

In following the preſent ſyſtem, the chief difficulties that occur are theſe.

1ſt, How to provide for the payment of the Nabob's troops and our army that are oppoſed to the Sha Zaddah at Patna.

2dly, How to prevail on the Nabob, beſides ſupplying the above demand, to furniſh us here with the money wanted for our military and commercial occaſions, and for the ſupply of the other preſidencies.

3dly, The poſſibility of the Sha Zaddah's meeting with better ſucceſs than heretofore; and in that caſe, What would be our ſituation?

4thly, The defection of different chiefs in the country encouraged by the Shaw, by which the revenues of ſuch diſtricts are loſt, and thoſe adjacent leſſened by their incurſions.

5thly, Suppoſing we yet meet with ſucceſs, how ſhall we put an end to the war? having experienced, that gaining a victory over the Sha Zaddah, does not deprive him of the means of renewing his attempts.

6thly,

In following the ſecond ſyſtem propoſed, the chief difficulties that occur are theſe.

1ſt, How to gain the Nabob's conſent.

2dly, The ſtate of the country conſidered, when ſuch a force is drawn from it, as will enable us to aſſiſt the prince.

3dly, How to ſatisfy the prince's party, few of whom will be induced to follow him.

4thly, How an immediate ſum of money is to be found, that will give us enough to ſupply the army on the coaſt, the payment of our troops here, and a preſent to the prince.

5thly, Are we to inform the Nabob before the negociation is begun, of what our demands are to be, or is he to receive them afterwards, as orders from his king, when we have declared him ſuch? If the latter, Is there no danger of his refuſing to comply with them? and if he does, How are we to manage? If the former, Will it not much increaſe the difficulty of gaining his conſent?

6thly, Supposing we should even be able to push our success so far as to drive the Sha Zaddah out of the province, would the confused and impoverished state of the country, furnish us immediately with the means of raising the sums wanted for the general occasions of the Company.

The raising the sum wanted is a difficulty in both cases almost unsurmountable:—it certainly cannot be obtained without imposing on the Nabob forcibly, terms which of his own good-will he never would come into. In favour of the change of system, it is to be said, that the means and resources of the country, from which the money must come, will be more capable of supplying it when the war is removed, by the march of the Sha Zaddah, to the northward.

Consequently those which we can prevail on to take part with us in this project, and to assist us in bringing the Nabob into it, will be more ready to advance money upon the promise of holding the principal employments.

And as on both sides there must be some kind of force or violence exerted over the Nabob's inclinations, it may be done with a better grace, as well as more effect, by means of orders from the prince.

With regard to our forces and the disposition of them, with respect to the security of the Company's settlements here, it must be considered that in both cases our troops must be divided:—at Patna they are more at hand to be called to join us in case of necessity; but yet so distant, that probably the threatened danger would be upon us before they could arrive, and the road would be open for the Sha Zaddah to follow immediately; and after having taken possession of the most valuable parts of the province, to join our enemies, which would make our situation even worse than before.

The Committee therefore are of opinion, all circumstances considered, that the settlements here will be more secure with the forces that will remain here, if by joining our army to the Sha Zaddah, and marching with him to the northward, we can put an end to all the inland troubles here, than in the present disposition of keeping that army at Patna, to make head against the Sha Zaddah, especially if we can procure such terms as will enable us to assemble on any occasion a large country force to co-operate with us here; and such terms, we doubt not, the Sha Zaddah will immediately offer.

An Alliance with the Sha Zaddah resolved on

Resolved therefore unanimously, That the entering into an alliance with the Sha Zaddah, is a necessary and expedient measure. The President is accordingly desired to press Cossim Aly Cawn on the subject of our expences, and our great distress for money, so as to draw from him some proposal of means for removing those difficulties; by which probably we may be able to form a judgment, whether he might not be brought to join in this negociation, and in procuring the Nabob's consent. There is another person here, Roydullub, who has been long under our protection; and whose attachment to the Company is not to be doubted: through him it is thought this intention may best be opened to the Sha Zaddah; but as an interview between him and the President at this time, might look suspicious and give an alarm to the Nabob, Mr. Holwell is desired to open the affair to him, and take his advice how best to manage.

Henry Vansittart.
Wm. B. Sumner.
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, September the 16th, 1760.

At a Select Committee; Present,
The Honourable Henry Vansittart, Esq; President,
Colonel Caillaud,
Wm. B. Sumner, Esq;
J. Z. Holwell, Esq;
Wm. M'Gwire, Esq;

Read, approved, and signed, the proceedings of the 15th instant.

The Governor's Report of his Conversation with Cossim Ally Cawn.

The President acquaints the Committee, that in a long conversation he had last night with Cossim Aly Cawn, he had an opportunity of making some progress towards the discoveries requisite for carrying on the negociation proposed yesterday:—that without letting him know any thing of our design, he had led him to make such declarations of his desire to have the rule over the Nabob, and the general management of the affairs of the province, as amount almost to a proof of his readiness to act the part intended for him.

After telling him much of our regard, and of our opinion of him as the fittest person for conducting the great affairs of the Bengal government, I began to make him strong representations on the subject of the Company's expences: that the immediate charges of the army exceeded far the sum assigned for that purpose; which sum also was not regularly paid, there being three or four months arrears:—that besides this, he could not but be sensible how much the Company gave up in other parts, for the sake of providing for the security of Bengal, withdrawing their forces from the Deccan and from Madrass, and sending continually

fresh

freſh ſupplies from Europe. I repreſented to him further the great loſs the Company had ſuffered by the long continuance of the preſent war with the Sha Zaddah; and how much it was to be wiſhed for the general benefit, that an end could be put to it, ſo as to enable the Nabob to reduce his expences, and collect his full revenues, of which a great part is now loſt by the ravages of the enemy, particularly the whole produce of the Patna province.

In anſwer to this, Coſſim Aly Cawn replied, That he has it not at preſent in his power to provide in a proper manner for the ſupply of the Company:—that if we could undertake to give him the general management of the country, by taking it out of the hands of thoſe who are now intruſted with it by the Nabob, he would then make ſuch aſſignments in favour of the Company, as ſhould be perfectly to our ſatisfaction.—At the ſame time he inſinuated, that this would undoubtedly meet with oppoſition at Muxadavad, and at firſt prove very diſagreeable to the Nabob himſelf: for which reaſon it would be quite neceſſary to have a force at hand to ſupport him; by which being enabled to over-rule the preſent evil counſellors of the Nabob, he could anſwer for bringing the Nabob himſelf into ſuch terms as ſhall be agreed on here.—With reſpect to the Sha Zaddah, he did not ſeem to have any notion of offering him peace; but ſaid, he ſhould be able to keep up a ſufficient force to fruſtrate any future attempts on this province: the preſident thinking this a ſufficient progreſs for the firſt conference, did not make him acquainted with our intended negociation with the Sha Zaddah, and which he imagines may better be opened to him by one of his old confidants: Coſſim Aly Cawn profeſſed a regard for Roydulub, and a deſire to ſee him; but as it was thought ſuch an interview could not be brought about with ſecreſy; and if known, would give an alarm to the Nabob, it was therefore determined to conſide in Cojah Petroſe, as the fitteſt perſon to make known our whole plan to Coſſim Aly Cawn.

Mr. Holwell's Report of his Converſation with Roydulub.

Mr. Holwell acquaints the Committee, That agreeable to their reſolution of yeſterday, he had laſt night a conference with Rajah Roydulub, who received the overture with much ſatisfaction, and approved in general of the plan; but thought there was ſome objection to the propoſed manner of addreſſing the prince, as it would cauſe much unneceſſary delay, which for many obvious reaſons ſhould be avoided, and would not give him the weight neceſſary on this occaſion, to obtain an immediate ſtop being put to the Prince's operations: that he thought our waiting for an overture from him was too nice a punctilio at this juncture; becauſe he knows the Prince is in ſuch a ſituation, as will not permit his heſitating to accept any terms we offer. He thinks nothing can prevent or delay his immediate conceſſion to all we aſk, but the article of confirming Meer Jaffier Aly Cawn, not only on account of his perſonal reſentment, but as it is contrary to the laws and rules of the empire, the appointing a ſeyd to a ſubahdary: therefore ſays, we had better demand ſunnods at once; that the power of ſubahdary, buxgerrea, and dewannee, be lodged in the Engliſh Company; and then we may confirm Meer Jaffier Aly Cawn ourſelves, if we think he deſerves it.—That there is no occaſion to ſtipulate for particular lands for the maintenance of the troops and ordnance, as the jaggiers of a hoſt, a hazzare, are always ſet apart for that purpoſe.—He requeſts, he may not be thought of for the poſt of roy rayen, but that he may be favoured with that of the buxeys neabut under the Company. He thinks he ſhall be able, without much difficulty, to conciliate matters with Comgar Cawn, Bulwanſing, and the other Rajahs of the Prince's party, as they are moſt of them his friends. He aſſures the Committee, he highly approves of the intended promotion of Meer Coſſim Aly Cawn to the dewannee, and will moſt readily co-operate with him in all matters, conducive to the completion of our plan, as the only poſſible means left to recover the peace and flouriſhing ſtate of the provinces, and revive the Company's trade and influence.

Henry Vanſittart.
W. B. Sumner.
J. Z. Holwell.

Fort William, 24th October 1760.

At a Select Committee; Preſent,
William Ellis, Eſquire, Preſident.
William Brightwell Sumner, Eſquire.
William M'Gwire, Eſquire.

Received the following letter from the Preſident, and Colonel Caillaud, dated at Miradbag the 21ſt inſtant.

Gentlemen,

The Governor wrote you yeſterday of the affairs here being ſettled to the Company's advantage: we ſhall now have the honour to acquaint you of the ſteps by which we advanced to this point of ſucceſs.

The Nabob's viſit to the Governor at Coſſimbuzar, the 15th of the month, as well as that we paid him the next day in return, paſſed only in general converſation. The 18th, he came here to talk upon buſineſs: in order to give him a more clear and full view of the bad management of his miniſters, by which his own affairs as well as the Company's are reduced to ſo dangerous a ſtate, and the inhabitants in general to want and miſery: we had prepared three letters, which after a ſhort and friendly introduction, the Governor delivered to him, and of which tranſlations are hereunto annexed, under No. 1, 2, and 3.

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The Nabob ſeemed much affected by the peruſal of the letters, but endeavoured more to put an end to the conference than to propoſe a remedy to the evils: we, however, prevailed on him to ſend for his dinner to Moraudbag, and in a manner inſiſted on his coming to ſome determination for the immediate reform of his government. At length he confeſſed himſelf, through age and grief, incapable of ſtruggling againſt ſo many difficulties: he deſired time to conſult with his friends. We told him the men with whom he had lately adviſed were not his friends, but his greateſt enemies; that his returning again in the midſt of them, would only be the means of augmenting his difficulties; that he had much better take the aſſiſtance of one from among his relations, on whoſe true attachment and fidelity he might more ſafely rely; he named five or ſix, and among them, Caſſim Aly Khan. We aſked him which of that number was the moſt proper to aſſiſt him in his preſent exigencies: he replied, without any heſitation, That Kaſſim Aly Khan was the moſt proper; nevertheleſs, it was with the utmoſt difficulty we could prevail on him to ſend for him; and ſo very late, that before Kaſſim Aly Khan could arrive, the old Nabob was ſo extremely fatigued, and in ſuch a ſtate of anxiety, that we could not refuſe his return home to take his reſt. We were convinced indeed, that it would be to no purpoſe to keep him; for ſuch was the jealouſy he diſcovered with reſpect to Kaſſim Aly Khan, that we ſaw he never would conſent, without ſome ſort of force, to give the other the means of reſtoring order to his affairs. An hour or two after the Nabob's departure, Kaſſim Aly Khan arrived, and ſeemed to be extremely apprehenſive, that the Nabob, inſtead of intruſting him with the management of affairs, would endeavour by ſome means or other to get rid of him. We agreed therefore in opinion with him, that he ſhould not go the Nabob's houſe, until meaſures were taken for his ſecurity: we reſolved, however, to give the Nabob the next day (the 19th) to reflect upon the letters before mentioned, in hopes he would propoſe ſome means of regulation. We heard nothing from him all day, but found by our intelligence, that he had been in council with his old adviſers, Keneram, Moonital, and Checon, whoſe advice, we were ſure, would be contrary to the welfare of the country in general, and that of the Company in particular. We determined therefore to act immediately upon the Nabob's fears. There could not be a better opportunity, than the night of the 19th afforded, it being the concluſion of the Gentoo feaſt, when all the principal people of that caſt would be pretty well fatigued with their ceremonies. We determined therefore, that Colonel Caillaud, with the two companies of military, and ſix companies of ſeapoys, ſhould croſs the river between three and four in the morning, and having joined Kaſſim Aly Khan and his people, march to the Nabob's palace, and ſurround it juſt at day-break: being extremely deſirous of preventing any diſturbance or bloodſhed, the Governor wrote a letter to the Nabob (the tranſlation of which is annexed, No. 4) and delivered it to the Colonel, to ſend in to him at ſuch time as he ſhould think moſt expedient: meaſures were at the ſame time taken for ſeizing the perſons of Keneram, Moonital, and Checon; our intention being only to remove thoſe three unworthy miniſters, and place Kaſſim Aly Khan in the full management of all the affairs, in quality of deputy and ſucceſſor to the Nabob.—The Governor remained at Moradbag, in readineſs to pay a viſit of congratulation to the Durbar, as ſoon as the point ſhould be ſettled.

The neceſſary preparations being accordingly made with all care and ſecreſy poſſible, the Colonel embarked with the troops, joined Kaſſim Aly Khan without the leaſt alarm, and marched into the court yard of the palace, juſt at the proper inſtant: the gates of the inner court being ſhut, the Colonel formed his men without, and then ſent the Governor's letter to the Nabob, who was at firſt in a great rage, and long threatened he would make what reſiſtance he could, and take his fate. The Colonel forbore all hoſtilities; and ſeveral meſſages paſſed by the means of Mr. Haſtings and Mr. Luſhington, whoſe ſervices on this occaſion deſerve notice.—The affair remained in this doubtful ſtate about two hours, when the Nabob finding his perſiſting was to no purpoſe, ſent a meſſage to Kaſſim Aly Khan, informing him, he was ready to ſend him the ſeals and all the enſigns of dignity, and to order the nobit to be ſtuck up in his name; provided he would agree to take the whole charge of the government upon him, to diſcharge all the arrears due to the troops, to pay the uſual revenues to the king, to ſave his life and his honour, and to give him an allowance ſufficient for his maintenance: all theſe conditions being agreed to, Kaſſim Aly Khan was proclaimed, and the old Nabob came out to the Colonel, declaring, That he depended on him for his life; and the troops then took poſſeſſion of all the gates, and notice was ſent to the Governor, who came immediately; and the old Nabob met him in the gateway, aſking, If his perſon was ſafe, which ſeemed now to be all his concern. The Governor told him, not only his perſon was ſafe, but his government too if he pleaſed, of which it never was intended to deprive him: the Nabob anſwered, That he had nothing more to buſy him at the city; that he ſhould be in continual danger from Kaſſim Aly Khan; and that if he was permitted to go and live in Calcutta, he ſhould be extremely happy and contented. Tho' we could not help lamenting his ſudden fall, we were not ſorry for this propoſal, as affairs will doubtleſs be better managed without him, and the advantages ſtipulated for the Company be obtained without the leaſt difficulty or delay. Kaſſim Aly Khan was accordingly ſeated on the throne, and we paid him our congratulations in the uſual form: all the jemmidars, merchants, and others, reſiding in the city came immediately, and made their acknowledgments to the new Subah; and in the evening every thing was as perfectly quiet,

as

as if there had been no change. The people in general ſeem much pleaſed with this revolution, and we are particularly happy in its being brought about without the leaſt diſturbance in the town, or a drop of blood ſpilt.

The advantages to the Company are great indeed.—The firmaunds for the countries of Burdwan, and Midnapore, and Chittigan, we ſhall receive immediately, as well as that for half of the Chunam already produced at Silket.—A very ſevere order has already been iſſued forbidding all the Shrafts and Merchants to refuſe the Calcutta ſiccas, or to aſk any batta on them. A ſupply of money will be ſent with the Colonel for the payment of the troops at Patna, and we have even ſome hopes of obtaining three or four lack beſides to ſend down to Calcutta, to help out the Company in their preſent occaſions there, and at Madraſs.—The former balance is to be paid monthly, according to the old Nabob's Kiſtbundy.

We are the more pleaſed with this fortunate event at this time, when the approach of peace in Europe gives us reaſon to fear the other European nations will find leiſure to diſturb us here. We ſhall now have ſtrong reſources within ourſelves, and an ally whoſe attachment to the Company may be relied on. The old Nabob could by no means be depended on for ſuch an occaſion; both his means and deſire of ſupporting us were very uncertain, as his behaviour in the Dutch troubles evinced.

The old Nabob did not think himſelf ſafe even for one night in the city: Kaſſim Aly Khan ſupplied him with boats, and gave him leave to take away as many of his women as he deſired, and a reaſonable quantity of cloaths and jewels. We furniſhed him with a ſtrong eſcort of Europeans and Sepoys, and intended to lodge him at Herogil, but he would not truſt himſelf there, and begged he might ſleep in his boats cloſe to Moradbag, which he did accordingly. We ſhall take care that Kaſſim Aly Khan provides every thing that is convenient and handſome for himſelf and his women, and ſettle upon him a ſufficient allowance for his maintenance, and then diſpatch him with a ſtrong eſcort to Calcutta. You will pleaſe to provide two houſes for his reception; there are two belonging to Sooberam Byſack and Rauſberry Seat, which the Ray Rayen occupied, when he was in Calcutta; if theſe can be had, we judge they will anſwer very well.

His legitimate wife, called the Begum Mother of the deceaſed Chuta Nabob, and of Kaſſim Aly Khan's wife, refuſed to accompany the old Nabob, with whom ſhe ſays ſhe has not been in good harmony for a long time paſt; that ſhe is extremely glad the government is put into ſuch good hands; and that ſhe ſhall live much happier with her daughter and ſon in law.

The old Nabob is now pretty eaſy, and ſeems to be reconciled to the loſs of a power which he owns to have been rather a burthen than a pleaſure, and too much for his abilities to manage ſince the death of his ſon; and the enjoyment of the reſt of his days in ſecurity under the Engliſh protection, ſeems to be the chief object of his wiſhes.

No. 1. Tranſlation of an Addreſs preſented to the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan by the Governor, dated 18th October 1760.

When I was at Madraſs, Colonel Clive frequently wrote to me on the ſtate of affairs in this country, and told me, that whenever he quitted this country to return to Europe, he would procure my appointment to the government. The friendſhip and connections between your excellency and the colonel are well known to me, and I hoped to have found all affairs carried on intirely according to the treaty; but what I obſerved upon my arrival, I ſhall now lay before you particularly.

Firſt, The Engliſh forces who are employed in your ſervice, and in the ſupport of your government at Azimabat, are kept without their pay.

Secondly, The forces of the Sircar, who are ſtationed in thoſe parts, are diſcontented, and diſaffected to the ſervice for want of pay.

Thirdly, The Sepoys at Muxadabad had ſurrounded the palace in a tumultuous manner for the arrears of their pay, and endangered your life: How deeply I was affected cannot be expreſſed: God is witneſs of what I felt upon that occaſion.

Fourthly, I plainly perceived, that the miniſters of this court, from their covetouſneſs and baſe diſpoſitions, had ſet aſide all juſtice, were plundering the poor without cauſe, and doing what they pleaſed, nor even withholding their hands from the lives of the people, deſtroying the ſubjects, and bringing ruin and deſolation on the country.

Fifthly, The ſcarcity of proviſions, &c. is ſo great as was never before known in this country, inſomuch that the people of all degrees are in the greateſt diſtreſs.—This can be owing to no other cauſe, than the bad management of your miniſters.

Sixthly, Formerly at the deſire of the Engliſh Company, a mint was eſtabliſhed in Calcutta, and it was your order, that the ſiccas of Calcutta, of the ſame weight and fineneſs with the ſiccas of Muxadabad, ſhould paſs for equal value. Notwithſtanding your perwannah for enforcing this grant, the officers of the King's province, have not ſuffered them to paſs, but contrary to your orders, require and inſiſt on a batta on the ſiccas.

Seventhly, The war with the Sha Zaddah ſtill continues: notwithſtanding the ſums expended, and the endeavours of the Engliſh forces, this affair is yet no nearer to a concluſion than the firſt day; excepting the Kella of Azimabad, no part of the ſubahſhip of Patna remains in your poſſeſſion; all the lands and villages are in a ſtate of ruin; and the Zemindars in every place are ready to join the Sha Zaddah's army, as appears from the letter to me to this

purpoſe from Beerboen.—From theſe circumſtances, it evidently appears to me, that all theſe difficulties came to paſs after the death of your ſon the late Chuta Nabob; from which time the miniſters of the ſircar regarding only their own intereſt, neglect the good of the country, and the welfare of the ſubjects, and employ themſelves in oppreſſing the poor, in rapine, violence, injuſtice, and iniquity.—When I ſaw the affairs of the ſircar in the hands of ſuch faithleſs and unworthy men, and every thing tending ſtill farther to ruin, I lifted up my eyes to heaven, and bewailed my ſtrange fate, that providence ſhould ſend me into this country at ſuch a time, and in the midſt of ſuch calamities; when the dignity of the Nabob, the reputation of the Company, and the proſperity of the country, are almoſt expired. After long conſideration, I concluded I would make one vigorous trial immediately to remedy all theſe evils, hoping by God's aſſiſtance to ſurmount all difficulties: For this reaſon, I am come with great joy into your preſence, and am happy in paying you my reſpects.

No. 2. Tranſlation of an Addreſs preſented to the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan by the Governor, dated the 18th October.

The miniſters that are about your perſon, and who tranſact your buſineſs, are people that are ever wavering and changeable in their Councils, as is evident from the perwannahs you frequently ſent me, complaining of the bad conduct and wicked intentions of Maha Rajahbullub, inſiſted upon the being recalled by ſome means or other. The colonel conſidering the ſituation of affairs at that time, recommended Maha Rajahbullub to you, and you ſent me a copy of it in a letter, which you did me the honour to write to me, and ſaid, that you was ſurpriſed that the Colonel would recommend a man ſo very unfit for buſineſs. You alſo ſent me word by the Nabob Kaſſim Aly Khan and the Rayraen, that the buſineſs of the moſt conſequence was to get Maha Rajahbullub down from Patna: I therefore agreeable to your deſire, wrote to Mr. Amyatt to ſend him down; God only knows what council your miniſters gave, that the perwannah was deferred being ſent; but that is the true cauſe of the troubles now at Patna: It is a known maxim, that a government where the councils change every day, cannot be well regulated.

No. 3. Tranſlation of a Letter preſented to the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan, by the Governor, dated the 18th October 1760.

The important affairs, for the regulation of which I have waited on you, as ſubmitted to your conſideration in a ſeparate addreſs, containing ſeven articles; now that I am here, is the time for opening the door of the difficulties therein mentioned, which is only to be effected by the key of your enlightened wiſdom. If this opportunity be loſt, another will hardly occur, when we can meet together ſo conveniently; beſides, the particulars which I have taken notice of, and the payment of arrears due to the Engliſh troops, and thoſe of the ſircar, it is neceſſary to make a large proviſion for future exigencies.—You have already given in pledge, jewels for a large amount, to be diſcharged by different payments, agreed and ſigned to, in your own hand; how this ſum is to be paid, unleſs the country is ſettled, I don't perceive; the pay allowed for the Engliſh army has been limited to one lack of rupees per month. As the diſturbances in the country have increaſed every day, for that reaſon large ſums have been expended in bringing ſoldiers from Europe and Madraſs, and in raiſing Sepoys: On this account a lack of rupees is by no means ſufficient. Let your excellency duly reflect, that your own Sepoys, in the time of extremity, preferring their own ſafety, have joined with the forces of the enemy; and the Engliſh forces, devoted entirely to your ſervice, and the deſtruction of your enemies, never were guilty of ſuch a conduct, nor ever will; and by the bleſſing of God, wherever the Engliſh ſtandard has been fixed they have always proved victorious: Upon this account it is by no means becoming your wiſdom to neglect ſuch brave men, or to deny them their due rewards. It is neceſſary, that for this buſineſs your excellency grant the Company ſome certain lands, ſufficient for the diſburſement of the pay of the troops, the expences of the artillery, and the proviſions of ſtores, &c. that, without any trouble to yourſelf, all their charges may be defrayed, from the produce of theſe lands, and our arms always ready to be employed in your ſervice; otherwiſe I muſt ſubmit to neceſſity. My concern for my honour will not ſuffer me to be unmoved at the Company's loſs; but I muſt ſeek ſome expedient for promoting the intereſt of the Company, and removing the evils they are oppreſſed with; and thoſe expedients muſt be adopted: but if your affliction for the death of your ſon has taken that hold upon your mind, that you cannot attend to the remedying of ſuch great difficulties, it is proper that you appoint ſome capable perſon from amongſt your children, in the place and dignity of your ſaid ſon, the Nabob Naſir ool Moolk, who may take charge of all theſe affairs, regulate the buſineſs of the country, and remove all theſe difficulties; that your excellency, freed from all the troubles and fatigues of the tranſactions, may remain without care, and the ſhadow of your protection overſpread the whole.

No. 4. Tranſlation of a Letter from the Governor to the Nabob, dated 19th October, at Night.

I have been waiting all this day in expectation that you would have ſettled ſome of the weighty and urgent affairs, upon which I yeſterday conferred with you, and that you would have acquainted me with your determination; but you have not favoured me with any anſwer

ſwer concerning them; from hence it plainly appears, that as long as thoſe evil councellors remain about your perſon, whatſoever I may repreſent to you for your proſperity and welfare, and the good of this country, will have no effect. The folly of theſe people will ſoon deprive you of your government, and prove the ruin, likewiſe, of the Companys affairs: I have judged it improper, that ſuch evils and diſgrace ſhould be brought upon us, for the ſake of two or three men; for this reaſon I have ſent Colonel Caillaud, with forces, to wait upon you; when the ſaid Colonel arrives, he will expel thoſe bad councellors, and place your affairs in a proper ſtate: I will ſhortly follow. Let not your excellency be under any apprehenſions, but chearfully receive the Colonel; and give orders to your men, that they make no diſturbances, nor raiſe tumults in the city. I ſolemnly declare, that I have no other view but your good and welfare. Look upon me as your ſincere well-wiſher, and remain ſatisfied.

Agreed, we write the following Letter to the Preſident, and Colonel Caillaud.

Gentlemen,

We have been honoured with your favour of the 21ſt, and one from the Preſident of the 20th inſtant, by which we have been informed of the great ſucceſs that has attended your operations: We muſt congratulate you on your having amply effected the intended purpoſes, without the effuſion of blood, or any diſturbance; and are highly pleaſed to find the Nabob ſo well reconciled to his preſent ſituation. We doubt not but what has been ſo well begun, will be concluded for the benefit and advantage of the Company; and that the affairs of the government will, in future, be put on a ſecure and proper footing.

We have given the neceſſary directions for the reception and accommodation of the old Nabob, whenever he arrives in Calcutta.

A few days, we flatter ourſelves, will bring this matter to a concluſion; and that we ſhall, very ſhortly, have the pleaſure of the Governor's preſence with us.

W. Ellis.
Wm. B. Sumner.

Fort William, 8th November 1760.

At a Conſultation; Preſent,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
William Ellis, Samuel Waller, and
William B. Sumner, Culling Smith, Eſquires.
Harry Verelſt, Mr. M'Gwire, indiſpoſed.
Harry Smith,

Mr. Verelſt's Opinion of the late Revolutions.

Mr. Verelſt delivers in his opinion, upon the meaſures lately taken by the Select Committee, as follows:

Mr. Verelſt begs leave to obſerve, that the board had been, till now, kept entirely ignorant of the proceedings of the Select Committee, relating to the preſent revolution, and their motives for it; he therefore cannot pretend to judge how far ſuch a ſtep was neceſſary, but thinks, that an affair of ſuch immediate conſequence to the Company's eſtates in theſe parts, the moſt mature conſideration of the whole board ſhould have been firſt had; that a treaty, executed in the moſt ſolemn manner, ſubſiſted between Meer Jaffier, and us; the moſt faithful adherence to which, as well as all other our engagements, has preſerved that influence and power we have maintained ever ſince the re-capture of Calcutta; a ſteadineſs to which treaty made the Britiſh admired, nay even courted, by every prince throughout thoſe provinces, and has ever been fatal to the prince apparent of the empire, and many other diſturbers, who have hitherto weakly endeavoured to engage us to break through thoſe ſolemn ties we were ſworn to. As this ſudden change muſt alarm every one, to find us ſo unexpectedly breaking through all our engagements, which were ſo public, reputable, and to the honour of the nation, he cannot be blamed, as the member of this board, for expreſſing his diſſatisfaction, at being made a cypher of, in ſo critical a concern.

Mr. Smith's Opinion the ſame as Mr. Verelſt's.

Mr. Smith begs leave to obſerve, he is of the ſame opinion with Mr. Verelſt.

The Preſident begs leave to remark upon the foregoing minutes, that though Mr. Verelſt and Mr. Smith might, without the leaſt preſumption, think that they, and the reſt of the gentlemen of the Committee, ought to have been conſulted upon an affair of ſo much importance, before it was carried into execution, yet, their venturing to condemn, or approve, before they know the nature of the engagements entered into, the reaſon why, or the manner in which, the whole was conducted, ſeems rather premature, eſpecially as they had an opportunity of ſo ſoon making themſelves competent judges; the whole being now ordered to be laid before the board, as mentioned in the former part of theſe minutes: the reaſon why the whole council was not before informed, was, that it was an affair that abſolutely required ſecreſy, and it is expreſly for the conduct of ſuch affairs, that the honourable the Court of Directors has thought proper to appoint a Select

Committee

Committee: To the ſecrecy which was obſerved, may, in great meaſure, be attributed the ſpeedy and eaſy ſucceſs which attended the execution, and the preventing all diſturbance, and loſs of blood.

Fort William, 10th November 1760.

Monday.

At a Conſultation; Preſent,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
William Ellis, Harry Verelſt, and
William B. Sumner. Harry Smyth, Eſquires.
William M'Gwire,

A Memorial, ſetting forth the Cauſes of the late Change in the Subahſhip of Bengal.

The Nabob, Jaffier Allee Cawn, was of a temper extremely tyrannical and avaricious, at the ſame time very indolent; and the people about him, being either abject ſlaves and flatterers, or elſe the baſe inſtruments of his vices; there was no chance of having the affairs of the government properly conducted, but by their removal: he attributed all the ill ſucceſs of his affairs to imaginary plots and contrivances, and ſacrificed lives, without mercy, to the exceſs of his jealouſy: numberleſs are the inſtances of men, of all degrees, whoſe blood he has ſpilt without the leaſt aſſigned reaſon. To learn the names and circumſtances of all theſe ſufferers, would be a work of time; but ſome of the moſt ſtriking examples are theſe following:

Coja Huddee, the firſt buxey, firſt baniſhed for a pretended conſpiracy againſt the Nabob's life, and afterwards cut off at Shahbad, in his march out of the province.

Mir Cazim, the ſecond buzey, invited by the Chuta Nabob, to his houſe, and after having received from him unuſual marks of affection, aſſaſſinated at the gates of the palace.

Abdeel Oliub Cawn, murdered at the Rumna, in the month of March 1760, by ſome of the Hircarras belonging to Checon, who waylaid him for that purpoſe, by the Nabob's orders.

Yar Mahmud, formerly in great favour with the Nabob, Serajah Dowla, and ſince Droga of the Emarut; ſlain in the preſence of the Chuta Nabob, in the month of April 1760.

Gaſſecta Begum, widow of the Nabob, Shehamut Jung;
Omna Begum, mother to the Nabob, Serajah Dowla;
Muzado Dowla, the ſon of Padſha Coolly Cawn, adopted by Shehamut Jung;
Lutfen Niſſa Begum, widow of the Nabob, Serajah Dowla;
Her infant, daughter of Serajah Dowla.

The five unhappy ſufferers, mentioned laſt, periſhed all in one night at Dacca, about the month of June 1760; where they had been detained priſoners ſince the acceſſion of Jaffier Allee Cawn to the Subahſhip; a perwannah was ſent to Jaſſaret Cawn, the Naib of Dacca, to put to death all the ſurvivors of the family of the Nabob's Aliverdee Cawn, Shehamut Jung, and Serajah Dowla; but, upon his declining to obey ſo cruel an order, the meſſenger, who had private inſtructions to execute this tragedy, in caſe of the other's refuſal, took them from the place of their confinement; and having carried them out at midnight upon the river, maſſacred and drowned them, with about 20 women of inferior note, and attendants. What became of Aliverdee Cawn's widow, is uncertain; it being reported by many, that ſhe eſcaped the fate of the reſt of her family.

Executions of this kind had made the Nabob the dread, or the deteſtation of all good men; and he neceſſarily became a prey to the people of mean extraction, and abject diſpoſitions; who, knowing that a government ſo managed could not ſtand long, ſought only to make themſelves rich, by oppreſſions of all ſorts, upon the country, and inhabitants. To the heavy taxes laid by them on the markets, is aſcribed the preſent unuſual ſcarcity and dearneſs of proviſions at the city, the capital of a country, once eſteemed the moſt plentiful in the world.

The perſons who have had the chief ſhares in this bad management, are Keenooram, Monilol, and Checon, all of low birth; and the two firſt, the menial ſervants of Jaffier Allee Cawn, before he came to the ſubahſhip: theſe manage, ſo as to engage him continually in idle or vicious amuſements; keeping him, by that means in utter ignorance of his affairs, and in a ſtate of indifference as to their ſucceſs. No money came into his treaſury at the ſame time; nothing was paid to his army; inſomuch that his troops mutinied, and ſurrounded his palace in a tumultuous manner, threatening to take away his life; which they would certainly have done, had not his ſon-in-law, the preſent Nabob, Coſſim Allee Cawn, became anſwerable, and paid them a very large ſum out of his own treaſury: this happened laſt June and if the imminent danger, with which his perſon was threatened on this occaſion, awakened for a moment; no ſooner was it removed again to a diſtance, than he fell back into the lethargy which had ſo long poſſeſſed him. The ſame unworthy miniſters remained ſtill his only councellors, and continued in the management of his affairs to the laſt day of his adminiſtration, which he left in ſo confuſed and impoveriſhed a ſtate, that in all human appearance, another month could hardly have run through before he would have been cut off by his own Sepoys, and the city become a ſcene of plunder and diſorder; the Nabob having

made

made no further proviſion for the payment of the long arrears due to his people, after Coſſim Allee Cawn had freed him from his former extremity. This danger he could not but foreſee, and more than once declared his apprehenſions, yet had not the power to exert the neceſſary means for preventing it, but ſunk the deeper into dejection.

Beſides this inteſtine danger to which the government was expoſed, two armies were in the field, and waiting only the fair weather to advance, the Sha Zaddah towards Patna, and the Beerboom Rajah towards Meerſhudabad, the capital.—The Rajahs of Biſſenpoor Ramgur, and the other countries bordering upon the mountains, were ready to ſhake off their dependance, and had already afforded conſiderable ſupplies to the Beerboom Rajah; the Rajah of Curruckpoor had committed open hoſtilities, and taken poſſeſſion of all the country about Boglepoor, which entirely ſtopped the communication between the two provinces on that ſide of the river. In a word, the whole country ſeemed ripe for an univerſal revolt, thoſe parts only excepted, whoſe natural weakneſs, or neighbourhood with the city, intimidated them from taking up arms. To encounter all theſe difficulties, there was nothing but troops without pay, from whom therefore no great efforts could be expected; of this a very recent inſtance occurs in the detachment which was ordered againſt the Beerboom Rajah, three months before the Nabob's abdication, but never advanced more than three coſe from the city; in which ſituation they continued upon my arrival there.

All who are now in Bengal, and acquainted with the tranſactions of the government, will bear witneſs, that this is a true deſcription of facts; and all who are convinced of the facts, will certainly agree, that affairs were at an extremity no longer to be neglected, without manifeſt danger of having the province over-run, and the trade entirely ruined: I was reſolved therefore to uſe my utmoſt endeavours to get theſe bad miniſters removed: and judging it might be difficult to prevail on the Nabob to part with his favourites without ſome degree of violence, I brought with me a detachment of Europeans and Sepoys, under pretence of ſending them with Colonel Caillaud, to reinforce the army at Patna.

I arrived with the Colonel at Coſſimbuzar, the 14th of October, and the next day the Nabob paid us a viſit; the 16th we went to the city, and returned the viſit on the 18th, the Nabob came to Moradbaug, by appointment, to talk upon buſineſs: In the converſation which I had with him in the two former meetings, I had taken occaſion to repreſent to him in general terms, the bad management of his miniſters, the miſeries and univerſal diſaffection of the country, and the deſperate ſtate of his, as well as the Company's, affairs: In order to give him a more full and clear view of the evils brought on through the weakneſs of his adminiſtration, and to point out the means of their removal, I had prepared three letters, which, after a ſhort and friendly introduction, I delivered to him, of which tranſlations are hereunto annexed, under No. 1, 2, and 3.

The Nabob ſeemed much affected by the peruſal of the letters, but endeavoured more to put an end to the conference than to propoſe a remedy to the evils. I however prevailed on him to ſend for his dinner to Muradbaug, and in a manner inſiſted on his coming to ſome determination for the immediate reform of the government; at length he confeſſed himſelf, through age and grief, for the late loſs of his ſon, incapable alone of ſtruggling againſt ſo many difficulties.—He deſired he might have time to conſult with his friends; I told him the men, with whom he had lately adviſed, were not his friends, but his greateſt enemies; that his returning again in the midſt of them would only be the means of augmenting his difficulties; that he had much better take the aſſiſtance of one from amongſt his relations, on whoſe true attachment and fidelity he might more ſafely rely: He named five or ſix, and amongſt them Coſſim Allee Cawn: I aſked him which of that number was moſt fit to aſſiſt him in his preſent exigencies; he replied, without heſitation, That Coſſim Allee Cawn was the moſt proper; nevertheleſs it was with the utmoſt difficulty I could prevail on him to ſend for him, and ſo very late, that before Coſſim Allee Cawn could arrive, the old Nabob was ſo extremely fatigued, and in ſuch a ſtate of anxiety, that I could not refuſe his return home to take his reſt. I was convinced indeed that it was to no purpoſe to detain him; for ſuch was the jealouſy he diſcovered with reſpect to Coſſim Allee Cawn, that I ſaw he never would conſent, without ſome ſort of force, to give the other the means of reſtoring order to his affairs: An hour or two after the Nabob's departure, Coſſim Allee Cawn arrived, and ſeemed to be extremely apprehenſive that the Nabob, inſtead of truſting him with the management of his affairs, would endeavour by ſome means or other to get rid of him; I agreed therefore in opinion with him, that he ſhould not go to the Nabob's houſe until meaſures were taken for his ſecurity: We reſolved however to give the Nabob the next day (the 19th) to reflect upon the letters before-mentioned, in hopes that he would propoſe ſome meaſures of regulation.—I heard nothing from him all day, but found by my intelligence, that he had been in council with his old adviſers Keenooram, Monilol, and Checon, whoſe advice I was ſure would be contrary to the welfare of the country in general, and that of the Company in particular. I determined therefore to act immediately on the Nabob's fears: There could not be a better opportunity than that the night of the 19th afforded, it being the concluſion of the Gentoo feaſt, when all the principal people of that caſt would be pretty well fatigued with their ceremonies; accordingly I agreed with Colonel Caillaud that he ſhould croſs the river with the detachment between three and four in the morning, and having joined Coſſim Allee Cawn, and his people, march to the Nabob's palace, and ſurround it juſt at day-break: Being extremely deſirous to prevent any diſturbance or bloodſhed, I wrote a letter to the Nabob, a tranſlation of which is annexed, No. 4. and delivered it to the Colonel, to ſend in to him

at ſuch a time as he ſhould think moſt expedient: Meaſures were taken at the ſame time for ſeizing the perſons of Keenooram, Monilol, and Checon; my intention being only to remove thoſe three unworthy miniſters, and to place Coſſim Allee Cawn in the full management of all the affairs, in quality of deputy and ſucceſſor to the Nabob: The neceſſary preparations being accordingly made, with all the care and ſecreſy poſſible, the Colonel embarked with the troops, joined Coſſim Allee Cawn without the leaſt alarm, and marched into the court yard of the palace juſt at the proper inſtant; the gates of the inner court being ſhut, the Colonel formed his men without, and ſent my letter to the Nabob, who was at firſt in a great rage, and long threatened he would make what reſiſtance he could, and take his fate: The Colonel forbore all hoſtilities, and ſeveral meſſages paſſed between him and the Nabob. The affair remained in this doubtful ſtate about two hours, when the Nabob finding his perſiſting was to no purpoſe, ſent a meſſage to Coſſim Allee Cawn, informing him he was ready to ſend him the ſeals, and all the enſigns of dignity, and to order the Nabit to be ſtuck up in his name, provided he would agree to take the whole charge of the government upon him to diſcharge all the arrears due to the troops, to pay the uſual revenues to the King, to ſave his life and honour, and give him an allowance ſufficient for his maintenance. All theſe conditions being agreed to, Coſſim Allee Cawn was proclaimed, and the old Nabob came out to the Colonel, declaring that he depended on him for his life: The troops then took poſſeſſion of all the gates; and notice being ſent to me, I immediately repaired to the palace, and was met by the old Nabob in the gateway; he aſked if his perſon was ſafe, which ſeemed now to be all his concern; I told him that not only his perſon was ſafe, but his government too, if he pleaſed, of which it was never intended to deprive him; the Nabob anſwered, that he had no more buſineſs at the city, that he ſhould be in continual danger from Coſſim Allee Cawn; and that if he was permitted to go and live in Calcutta, he ſhould be extremely happy and contented. Though I could not help lamenting his ſudden fall, I was not ſorry for this propoſal, as I knew affairs would be much better managed without him; and his retaining a ſhare in the authority (however ſmall) could not fail to cauſe ſuch perplexities as might prove, in ſo critical and dangerous a juncture, of the worſt conſequences to the adminiſtration. Coſſim Allee Cawn was accordingly ſeated on the muſnud, and I paid him my congratulations in the uſual form; all the Jemautdars and perſons of diſtinction at the city came immediately and made their acknowledgments to the new Subah, and in the evening every thing was as perfectly quiet as if there had been no change; the people in general ſeemed much pleaſed with this revolution, which had this peculiar felicity attending it, that it was brought about without the leaſt diſturbance in the town, or a drop of blood ſpilt.

The Nabob did not think himſelf ſafe even for one night in the city: Coſſim Allee Cawn ſupplied him with boats, and permitted him to take away as many of his women as he deſired (which he did to about the number of ſixty) with a reaſonable quantity of jewels. I furniſhed him with a ſtronger eſcort of Europeans and Sepoys, and intended to lodge him at Nezajeel, but he would not truſt himſelf there, and begged he might ſleep in his boats cloſe to Moradbaug, which he accordingly did.—He continued at Moradbaug the next day, and in the evening I viſited him with Colonel Caillaud.—He appeared then pretty eaſy, and reconciled the loſs of a power, which he owned to be rather a burthen than a pleaſure, and too much for his abilities to manage ſince the death of his ſon; and the enjoyment of the reſt of his days in ſecurity under the Engliſh protection ſeemed to be the chief object of his wiſhes.

On the morning of the 22d, he ſet out for Calcutta, and arrived there the 29th. He was met by a deputation from the Council, and treated with every mark of reſpect due to his former dignity.

Tranſlation of an addreſs preſented to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn by the Governor.

Dated the 18th October 1760.

No. 1. When I was at Madraſs, Colonel Clive frequently wrote to me upon the ſtate of the affairs of this country, and told me, that whenever he quitted this country, to return to Europe, he would procure my appointment to the government. The friendſhip and connections between your Excellency and the Colonel, are well known to me; and I hoped to have found all affairs carried on entirely according to the treaty; but what I obſerved upon my arrival, I ſhall now lay before you particularly.

Firſt, The Engliſh Forces, who are employed in your ſervice, and in the ſupport of your government at Azimabad *, are kept without their pay.

Secondly, The forces of the Sicar †, who are ſtationed in thoſe parts, are diſcontented, and diſaffected to the ſervice for want of their pay.

Thirdly, The Sepoys of Murſhudabad had ſurrounded the palace in a tumultuous manner for the arrears of their pay, and endangered your life: how deeply I was affected cannot be expreſſed; God is witneſs what I felt on that occaſion.

Fourthly, I plainly perceived that the miniſters of this court, from their covetous and baſe diſpoſitions, had ſet aſide all juſtice, were plundering the poor without cauſe, and doing what they pleaſed, nor even withholding their hands from the lives of the people, deſtroying the ſubjects, and bringing ruin and deſolation on the country.

† Patna. ‡ Government.

Fifthly,

Fifthly, The ſcarcity of proviſions, &c. is ſo great as was never before known in this country, inſomuch that the people of all degrees are in the greateſt diſtreſs: this can be owing to no other cauſe but the bad management of your miniſters.

Sixthly, Formerly, at the deſire of the Engliſh Company, a mint was eſtabliſhed in Calcutta; and it was your order that the ſiccas of Calcutta, of the ſame weight and fineneſs with the ſiccas of Murſhudabad, ſhould paſs for equal value; notwithſtanding your perwannahs, for the enforcing of this grant, the officers of the King's province have not ſuffered them to paſs; but, contrary to your orders, require and inſiſt on a batta on the ſiccas.

Seventhly, The war with the Sha Zadda ſtill continues, notwithſtanding the ſums expended, and the endeavours of the Engliſh forces, the affair is yet no nearer to a concluſion than the firſt day, excepting the kella † of Azimabad, no part of the ſubahſhip of Patna remains in your poſſeſſion; all the lands and villages are in a ſtate of ruin, and the Zemindars, in every place, are ready to join the Sha Zadda's army, as appears from the letter wrote to me to this purpoſe from Beerboom: From theſe circumſtances it evidently appears to me, that all theſe difficulties came to paſs after the death of your ſon, the late Chuta Nabob, from which time the miniſters of the ſircar regarding only their own intereſt, neglect the good of the country, and the welfare of the ſubjects, and employ themſelves in oppreſſing the poor, in rapine, violence, injuſtice, and iniquity. When I ſaw the affairs of the ſircar in the hands of ſuch faithleſs and unworthy men, and every thing tending ſtill farther to ruin, I lifted up my eyes to heaven, and bewailed my ſtrange fate, that Providence ſhould ſend me into this country at ſuch a time, and in the midſt of ſuch calamities, when the dignity of the Nabob, the reputation of the Company, and the proſperity of the country, are almoſt expired. After long conſideration, I concluded that I would make one vigorous trial immediately, to remedy all theſe evils, hoping, by God's aſſiſtance, to ſurmount all difficulties; for this reaſon I am come with great joy into your preſence, and am happy in paying you my reſpects.

Tranſlation of an Addreſs preſented to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn by the Governor. Dated 18th October, 1760.

No. 2. The miniſters that are about your perſon, and who tranſact your buſineſs, are people that are ever wavering and changeable in their councils, as is evident from the perwannahs you frequently ſent me; complaining of the bad conduct and wicked intentions of Maha Rajabullub, inſiſting upon his being recalled by ſome means or other. The Colonel, conſidering the ſituation of affairs at that time, recommended Maha Rajabullub to you, and you ſent a copy of it to me in a letter, which you did me the honour to write me, and ſaid, you was ſurpriſed that the Colonel would recommend a man ſo very unfit for every buſineſs: you alſo ſent me word by the Nabob Meer Mahomed Caſſum Cawn, and the Roy Royan, that the buſineſs of the moſt conſequence was to get Maha Rajabullub down from Patna. I therefore, agreeable to your deſire, wrote to Mr. Amyatt, to ſend him down: God only knows what council your miniſters gave; that the perwannah was deferred being ſent, but that is the true cauſe of the troubles now at Patna. It is a known maxim that a government, where the council changes every day, cannot be well regulated.

Tranſlation of a Letter preſented to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn by the Governor. Dated 18th October, 1760.

No. 3. The important affairs, for the regulation of which I have waited upon you, are ſubmitted to your conſideration in a ſeparate addreſs, containing ſeven articles. Now that I am here, this is the time for opening the door of the difficulties therein mentioned, which is only to be effected by the key of your enlightened wiſdom. If this opportunity be loſt, another will hardly occur, when we can meet together ſo conveniently; beſides the particulars which I have taken notice of, and the payment of the arrears, due to the Engliſh troops, and thoſe of the ſircar, it is neceſſary to make a large proviſion for future exigencies; you have already given in pledge jewels for a large amount, to be diſcharged by different payments, agreed and ſigned to by your own hand. How this ſum is to be paid, unleſs the country is ſettled, I do not perceive; the pay allowed for the Engliſh army has been limited to one lack of rupees per month; as the diſturbances in the country have increaſed every day, for that reaſon large ſums have been expended in bringing ſoldiers from Europe and Madraſs, and in raiſing Sepoys; on this account a lack of rupees is by no means ſufficient: let your excellency duly reflect that your own Sepoys, in time of extremity, preferring their own ſafety, have joined with the forces of the enemy, and the Engliſh forces devoted entirely to your ſervice, and the deſtruction of your enemies, never were guilty of ſuch a conduct, nor ever will; and by the bleſſing of God, wherever the Engliſh ſtandard has been fixed, they have always proved victorious; upon this account it is by no means becoming your wiſdom to neglect ſuch brave men, or to deny them their due rewards. It is neceſſary that for this buſineſs your Excellency grant the Engliſh Company certain lands, ſufficient for the diſburſement of the troops, the expences of the artillery, and the proviſion of ſtores, &c. that without any trouble to yourſelf, all their charges may be defrayed from the produce of theſe lands, and our arms always ready to be employed in your ſervice, otherwiſe I muſt ſubmit to neceſſity. My concern for my own honour will not ſuffer me to be unmoved at the Company's loſs;

† Fort.

but

but I muſt ſeek ſome expedient for promoting the intereſts of the Company, and removing the evils they are oppreſſed with; and thoſe expedients muſt be adopted. But if your affliction for the death of your ſon has taken that hold upon your mind, that you cannot attend to the remedying of ſuch great difficulties, it is proper that you appoint ſome capable perſon from amongſt your children, in the place and dignity of your ſaid ſon the Nabob Naſſirool Moolk, who may take charge of all theſe affairs, regulate the buſineſs of the country, and remove all theſe difficulties.—That your Excellency, freed from all the troubles and fatigues of the public tranſactions, may remain without care or uneaſineſs, and the ſhadow of your protection overſpread the whole.

Tranſlation of a Letter from the Governor to the Nabob.

Dated the 19th October 1760, at night.

No. 4. I have been waiting all this day in expectation that you would have ſettled ſome of the weighty and urgent affairs upon which I yeſterday conferred with you, and that you would have acquainted me with your determination, but you have not favoured me with any anſwer concerning them; from hence it plainly appears, that as long as thoſe evil councellors remain about your perſon, whatſoever I may repreſent to you for your proſperity and welfare, and the good of this country, will have no effect. The folly of theſe people will ſoon deprive you of your government, and prove the ruin likewiſe of the Company's affairs. I have judged it improper that ſuch evils and diſgrace ſhould be brought upon us for the ſake of two or three men; for this reaſon I have ſent Colonel Caillaud with forces to wait upon you; when the ſame Colonel arrives, he will expel thoſe bad councellors, and place your affairs in a proper ſtate: I will ſhortly follow. Let not your Excellency be under any apprehenſions, but chearfully receive the Colonel, and give orders to your men that they commit no diſturbance, nor raiſe tumults in the city. I ſolemnly declare that I have no other view but your good and welfare.—Look upon me as your ſincere well-wiſher, and remain ſatisfied.

APPENDIX, No. 10.

Proceedings relating to Colonel Caillaud.

Fort William, the 4th October 1762

At a Conſultation; Preſent,

The worſhipful Peter Amyatt, Eſquire, Preſident.
William M'Guire, Eſquire. William Hay, Eſquire.
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire. Hugh Watts, Eſquire.
The Governor indiſpoſed.

Colonel Caillaud's Defence, L. R. No. 14.

Colonel Caillaud now delivers in the following letter, dated this day, containing an apology for his conduct, in anſwer to the charge exhibited againſt him.

To the honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire,
Preſident, and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of Council, at Fort William.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

In compliance to the orders which you have received relating to me, from the honourable the Court of Directors, in a poſtſcript of a letter, under date the 7th October 1761, in which you are directed and required to cauſe the ſtricteſt and moſt impartial enquiry to be made into a report; "That in conjunction with the Chuta Nabob, I had ſigned a paper, offering "a reward of fifty thouſand rupees, or ſome ſuch ſum, to ſeveral black perſons for the aſſaſ- "ſination of the Sha Zaddah, which paper was alſo offered to Mr. Amyatt, the then chief of "Patna, for him to ſign; but which he refuſed, as a moſt infamous meaſure:" This, Gentlemen, is the ſubſtance of the charge to which I am now to reply.

Unfavourable as the firſt appearance of the action may ſeem againſt me, I cannot but hope that when in the courſe of this my apology, you are made acquainted with the reaſons for my concurring and conſenting to this (as it muſt have appeared) ſo unjuſtifiable a meaſure, and when all the circumſtances attending on it are laid before you, I flatter myſelf that I may be able ſo far to juſtify my conduct to the world, my employers, and you, as to ſatisfy them that if I have gone too far, it was from the beſt of motives, and with the beſt of intentions; ſuch at leaſt as at that time, and ever ſince, have acquitted me in my own breaſt of any ſenſe of guilt; and happy ſhall I be, if I can make my actions appear in the ſame light to the unprejudiced and impartial part of mankind.

Could I have foreſeen or expected that one day I might be called upon to anſwer to what is now ſo heavily laid to my charge, or had my heart ever once at the time, or afterwards, reproached me with that tranſaction as a crime, which is now made one of ſo foul a nature againſt me; is it to be ſuppoſed but that I would have taken ſuch precautions to guard againſt the conſequences, as naturally muſt have preſented themſelves to a mind conſcious of guilt,

guilt, or of a fault? On the contrary, as my conſcience never reproached me, ſo my conduct, in conſequence, was agreeable to the ſelf-known honeſty an innocence of my intentions: On this account, therefore, I made no ſecret of what had paſſed, but on all occaſions openly and publicly avowed it; even the very day after, my firſt ſtep was to make the Governor (then Mr. Holwell) acquainted with it; a copy of which letter I ſhall produce, and in which the fact is told in all truth and ſincerity; but in ſuch a ſtile alſo, as I think muſt ſupport what I declare to have been my real ſentiments and motives in this affair: I ſhall bring alſo a letter, wrote the morning of that evening, in which I acquieſced with the Nabob in that meaſure, and in which I think many ſtriking proofs will be found for the truth of what I advance in favour of my cauſe.

From whence then could this conſciouſneſs of ſecurity to myſelf ariſe? Guilt could never have produced it. Sure then, it could only proceed from a ſtrong ſelf conviction, that the meaſure to which I then gave my concurrence could never take place; but to the appearances to which I was obliged to ſubmit, from the neceſſity of the times, and to avoid greater ills which then threatened us, as well from the perplexing and critical ſituation of affairs in general, as from the natures and diſpoſitions of the people, with whom I had to deal.

As a further teſtimony of the truth of what I am now advancing towards my vindication; and as a proof that the action muſt have appeared to others in the ſame light as it did to me at the time, I appeal to the gentlemen then preſent, Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington, for their ſentiments on the affair: For, to the beſt of my remembrance, I cannot recollect that either of them once made any objection, or expreſſed that juſt abhorrence, which naturally would ariſe againſt an action ſuch as I am charged with. Could this proceed from any cauſe, but their ſeeing the whole tranſaction with all its attending circumſtances, in the ſame favourable point of view, in which it appeared to me? Muſt they not, like me, have been ſatisfied and convinced, that it was an idle and vain ſcheme, that could never take place, but to which my concurrence was abſolutely neceſſary, to amuſe and keep up the idle fooliſh hopes of the Nabob and his ſon, who required no leſs a proof (as we then ſtood affected towards each other) to ſatisfy them, and remove thoſe fears and jealouſies from which we had every thing to apprehend.

Thus urged, thus impelled, I made no ſcruple of acting to the beſt of my judgment and abilities for the public ſervice. To forward that alone was my only aim, and engroſſed all my attention; to that I ſacrificed all fears, that the means by which I purſued it, were in appearance unjuſtifiable. But fears indeed I had none, but ſuch as I was ever ready to deſpiſe, when the public good and my private ſafety came in competition: others in my ſituation might have acted with more prudence; but none, I will venture to affirm, with more innocence of heart, or better intentions: had I been guilty, I had the means in my power, with eaſe, to have concealed it: had I been leſs zealous, I had proceeded with more caution, and given more attention to my own perſonal ſafety, than to the dangers of the public cauſe.

But from this my own report, Gentlemen, neither the world nor you can judge, or be ſatisfied. I ſhall therefore endeavour to ſupport what I have already offered in my vindication, by ſuch proofs, as, from the nature of the accuſation againſt me, I ſhall be able to collect. Theſe proofs ſhall conſiſt in a fair and impartial account of the tranſaction itſelf; with all the circumſtances attending it that I can poſſibly charge my memory with; and by my own account of the event immediately after it happened.—The difficulties I labour under in my defence, are obvious, by being obliged to anſwer to ſo unexpected a charge, at ſo great a diſtance of time, there being now above two years elapſed; in which ſpace many circumſtances muſt have eſcaped me, as well as the gentlemen who were preſent, which, could we recollect, might have much favoured and aſſiſted my cauſe. However, ſuch allowances and aſſiſtance, in this, and in every other reſpect, as may be expected from men of honour, candour, and generoſity, I am ſatisfied I may expect, and that I ſhall receive, Gentlemen from you.

To this account of the fact itſelf ſhall be joined authenticated extracts from my correſpondence at that time; and from theſe I hope the real motives of my action will appear in their ſtrongeſt and moſt favourable light, as will alſo what I have advanced as to the then critical ſituation of our affairs. But for the truth of this I may further appeal to many of the preſent members of the Council, who muſt have a perfect knowledge, as well of our condition at that time, as of the nature of the men with whom I was obliged to act.

From the depoſitions already taken, and the further queſtions I may have to aſk of Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington, I hope alſo much may appear in my favour: What I have to ſay in my own cauſe may be doubted; but that, when ſtrengthened by the teſtimony of others, cannot be controverted. Happy ſhall I eſteem myſelf, if altogether I can ſatisfy my employers, and you, Gentlemen, that I have not deſerved the injury done my reputation.

I am greatly encouraged to hope, from the reception I have met with ſince my arrival here, that no prejudices are entertained to my diſadvantage. On the contrary, I have all the reaſon to be ſatisfied, that my cauſe will be aſſiſted by all the generous concern which human minds can feel (without prejudice to honour, truth, or juſtice) for errors in which the heart had no ſhare.

May I venture to conclude this by an appeal to the courſe of my conduct thro' life? Have I ever, to the knowledge of any man, betrayed in my actions, my converſation, or my manners, a want of humanity? or in my nature and diſpoſition ſhewn that I had not the feelings

of a man? and may I, without an imputation of vanity, rather flatter myſelf, that amongſt my friends and my acquaintance, I was held in ſome eſteem, for the practice of a few virtues the moſt oppoſite to ſuch a character? Is it poſſible then, that I could in one minute ſo far change my nature; and that at once forgetting all that was due to myſelf, to honour, to principle, and to humanity, I could be guilty of the crime laid to my charge?

There are none of you, Gentlemen, here, but what are well acquainted with the Shah Zaddah's firſt attempts in the year 1759, who then entered the ſubahſhip of Bahar, at the head of an army, which gave the firſt riſe to the troubles and confuſion, that for a time ſo diſtracted this government. Colonel Clive, with his uſual conduct, activity, and ſucceſs, baffled with eaſe his firſt attempts, and obliged him to retire over the Caramnaſerah, the boundaries of the Patna province; and there was room to hope, that all further troubles from that quarter were happily over.

However, early in the year 1760, the Prince was encouraged by the number of diſaffected Rajahs and Jemydars of theſe provinces (who all promiſed to ſupport his cauſe) once more to try his fortune. You are well informed of his firſt ſucceſſes by the defeat of Ramnouan, the Subah then of Patna; of my march, in conjunction with the Nabob's ſon, to the relief of that city; and of our ſucceſs againſt the Prince, whoſe army was defeated at Circey on the 22d of February.

The bad uſe that was made of this victory, the cauſes of which are well known, gave the Prince time to collect his ſcattered adherents; and the then ſituation of the province of Bengal gave him hopes, that he might better carry the point, by ſtriking at once at the root before we could prevent the mitchief; which determined him to move for that province, leaving behind him every thing that could retard his march, and with an army compoſed almoſt of nothing but cavalry.

The old Nabob was then in Bengal, and had taken the field at the head of an army, as mutinous, diſobedient, and ill appointed, as a body of troops could be, to whom there was owing vaſt arrears of pay, and even without money for their immediate ſubſiſtence. The occaſion of his taking the field at firſt, was with an intention to reduce to obedience the Nabob of Pyrneah, who had thrown off his allegiance, and was encamped on the banks of the Ganges, with an army well appointed and well paid of 30 thouſand men; and beſides this force, by whom the Shah Zaddan expected to be joined, there was alſo a body of Morattoes that had entered the province from Catack, and were then in the heart of Bengal, plundering and deſtroying the moſt fruitful part of the province; and this was the ſituation of affairs in this government about the beginning of March.

Mr. Holwell was then Governor, and had ſucceeded Colonel Clive, who had ſailed for Europe ſome time in February: while he remained ſuch was his influence and aſcendancy over the Nabob, that he was kept within ſome bounds; but no ſooner was that check removed, than he began to purſue ſuch meaſures as gave Mr. Holwell (and indeed with juſtice) very early impreſſions to his diſadvantage; and as Mr. Holwell did not conceal his ſentiments, the Nabob was ſoon apprized of them; and thus a mutual diſtruſt and jealouſy of each other was very early and firmly eſtabliſhed. I own the Nabob's conduct was ſuch, that though my way of acting was different, yet my real opinion of him was to the full as bad as Mr. Holwell's; but our reſpective thoughts on this ſubject will beſt appear by the ſubjoined extracts of our letters, one of mine to the Governor, dated the 27th February, and his anſwer of the 11th of March.

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to Mr. Holwell, dated Shah Zadahpour, 27th February 1760.

"The more I ſee of the Nabob, the more I am convinced he muſt be ruined in ſpite of all "our endeavours, if he does not alter his preſent meaſures: he is neither loved nor feared "by his troops, nor his people: he neglects ſecuring the one by the badneſs of his payments; "and he wants ſpirit and ſteadineſs to command the other: as no one knows him better "than you, Sir, no one is more proper to give him the neceſſary advice on the occaſion; nor "can you too forcibly, or frequently repreſent to him the fatal conſequences, if he perſiſts in "his folly."

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Anſwer, dated Calcutta, 11th March 1760.

"The judgment you have formed of the Nabob is too juſt. Weakneſs, irreſolution, ſuſpi- "cion, and conſequently cruelty from his diſpoſition: What but the iſſue you predict can reſult "from theſe, when joined to a moſt ungracious and inſolent demeanour, which has made him "univerſally hated and deſpiſed? We muſt, however, ſupport him and his government as long "as we poſſibly can, without involving ourſelves and our employers in his ruin. When this "appears, it will be time to think a little further, as I judge there is no treaty ſubſiſting be- "tween us, that can exact that ſacrifice from us."

Ill, however, as it appears I thought of the Nabob, yet I ſtrove on all occaſions to ſoften matters between him and Mr. Holwell: I knew and apprehended the fatal conſequences of ſuch jealouſies and diviſions amongſt us; which in the end could but encreaſe our difficulties, and add to the confuſion and perplexity of our ſituation.

Among

Among the many ſubjects of contention between them, there were two in particular that much widened the breach, and in the conduct of which I thought there were faults on both ſides.

The Nabob at this time had been particularly earneſt with Mr. Holwell, with regard to the protection that was continued to a perſon called Roydoolabram, againſt whom there were very ſtrong proofs, that he had been very inſtrumental in promoting the troubles which then reigned in that country; that he had favoured the Prince's cauſe, and aſſiſted him with money; and that it was owing principally to his repreſentations and advice, that the Prince had begun his march towards Bengal; and that the Morattoes had entered the province. It was certain that the force of any accuſation which the Nabob could bring againſt this man, was much weakened by the knowledge we had of his motives, and the many attempts he had before made at the expence of truth, to induce us to withdraw our protection from him: But at this time my ſuſpicions of his conduct were not grounded ſo much on what the Nabob advanced againſt him, as from my own knowledge of facts, which proved that he not only then encouraged, but was aſſiſting the Prince's cauſe. I did not think therefore that all was done that might have been done, to give the Nabob ſatisfaction in this affair: Tho' I muſt do Mr. Holwell the juſtice to ſay, that notwithſtanding our ſentiments differed on this ſubject, yet he had ſo much regard to my repreſentations, as to have the man confined to his houſe, and narrowly watched. Our opinions will beſt appear on this ſubject alſo by two ſhort extracts of one of my letters to him, dated the 4th of March, and his anſwer of the 12th.

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to Mr. Holwell, dated Camp at Circey the 4th March 1760.

"There was a report that Roydoolabram and Nuncomar were confined. I could have "wiſhed to have ſeen it confirmed in your laſt letter; as to the latter, I know nothing of him, "but for the former, I am convinced he has been the principal perſon concerned in all theſe "troubles. His confinement, if true, will, I think, be a great means to ruin the Shah Zaddah "and his party—as his intereſt and money have been the principal means of his ſupport."

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Anſwer, dated Calcutta 12th March 1760.

"I muſt differ in ſentiments with you touching Roydoolabram's ſupporting him (meaning "Sabur, the chief of the Morattoes, who were in the country) or the Shah Zaddah; narrowly "watched as he has been, it is hardly poſſible he could have furniſhed either with ſupplies; "and for the further ſecurity of him, I have removed him and his ſons into the centre of the "town, where they are, and ſhall remain cloſe priſoners until theſe troubles ſubſide."

This affair was one of thoſe which at firſt begun the diſtruſts and doubts that ſubſiſted between the Governor and the Nabob; but another of a more ſerious nature that happened about this time encreaſed it to ſuch a degree, as ſtill made my ſituation between them more and more perplexed. It will be neceſſary, however, before I mention this event, that I mention what became of the Prince, and of his expedition into the Bengal province.

As we had the earlieſt intelligence of the Prince's march and deſigns, the young Nabob was then convinced, but too late, of his folly; and to make what amends he could for it, he agreed to purſue any meaſures I would propoſe: there was but one left, which was to follow the Prince as faſt as we could; and though it could not be expected, from the nature of our troops, that we could come up with his army, yet we kept ſo cloſe to him, as entirely prevented his putting in execution any part of his plan of operations, expecting his being joined by the Morattoes. As for us, after the junction was made between the old Nabob's army and ours, we marched, in hopes of bringing the Prince to another engagement, which he as cautiouſly avoided; however, what with lucky and unlucky hours, and every ſort of delay and diſappointment that could attend irreſolution in council, and cowardice in execution, we loſt many opportunities; the laſt the beſt, when I came up near enough to the rear of the Prince's army to cannonade them; but from which they ſoon got out of reach; and the Prince finding he could not make any thing of it, while he had our army to contend with, took the ſame rout back, by which he came; and thus ended his fruitleſs attempt in Bengal; and as ſoon as we were ſatisfied of his retreat, our army, in conjunction with the two Nabobs and their forces, marched towards the city of Muxadavad.

It was about this time that I received a letter from Mr. Holwell, dated the 7th April, informing me, that he had found out that the Nabob was carrying on a correſpondence with the Prince, and of ſo injurious a nature to the mutual engagements which we were under to each other, as deſerved our warmeſt reſentment, deſiring me that I would uſe all the means in my power to come at the truth of it; that he, for his part, had been employing an emiſſary with Cander Khan, the man who was then the Prince's principal ſupport. The conſequence of this emiſſary's negociations (of the nature of which I never was made acquainted, whether by letter or meſſage) was no leſs than Mr. Holwell's receiving in anſwer a phirmaund from the Prince with many fair offers, and incloſing a copy, as it is ſaid, of the Nabob's addreſs, into the authenticity of which I was to inquire. Thus a correſpondence was eſtabliſhed between Mr. Holwell and the Prince, at the ſame time that he was ſo loudly reproaching the Nabob with a ſtep of the ſame nature.

The

The firſt intimation I had given me of this affair, was previous to Mr. Holwell's letter, and came to me from ſome of the perſons about the Nabob, informing me that the Nabob was acquainted with the whole tranſaction, and was under the greateſt uneaſineſs and apprehenſions about it; for which I own I thought he had but too much reaſon; for as he could not know Mr. Holwell's motives, ſuch a circumſtance at the time muſt have much affected him, and made a very ſtrong impreſſion on his mind. I did not then immediately give my ſentiments to Mr. Holwell on the affair; but ſome time after, upon his mentioning, in a letter to me, that his meſſengers coming from the Prince, had been plundered of their letters, which, he ſaid, could not be done by any but ſome of the Nabob's emiſſaries, I could not help in my anſwer to him in a general letter of the firſt of May, ſaying—

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to the Board, dated Moradbaug, 1ſt May 1760.

" In the Preſident's letter of the 24th ultimo, he informs me, that the returning Hir-
" carrahs from Cander Khan had been plundered of the letters they had. I am concerned
" indeed at it, but not ſo much from any great loſs the letters can be; but that if they have
" fallen into the Nabob's hands, he will have reaſon to think it very extraordinary, that at
" the ſame time we are reproaching him with carrying on a correſpondence without our
" knowledge, to find ſuch proofs againſt us of our doing the like, with another diſagreeable
" circumſtance attending it, letters in the ſame packet for men his known and profeſſed ene-
" mies, ſuch as Rajahram and Nuncomar."

To ſet the above circumſtances in the cleareſt light I can, circumſtances which I think muſt ſtrongly tend towards my juſtification, I will now lay before you, Gentlemen, an extract of that letter from the Governor, dated the 7th April, in which he firſt makes me acquainted both with his own correſpondence, and that which he ſuſpected the Nabob was carrying on with the Prince; and to this I ſhall ſubjoin my anſwer of the 15th of April, which I will beg of you to obſerve was wrote the morning of that very day, on which, with the Nabob and his ſon, I ſigned that paper with regard to the Prince.

Extract of Mr. Holwell's Letter to Colonel Caillaud, dated Calcutta, the 7th April 1760.

" I am now to touch on a ſubject to you, which appears to me to require our greateſt at-
" tention: ſome days ago I wrote Mr. Haſtings concerning an information that was given
" me, that the old Nabob had ſent a truſty perſon with a ſubmiſſive arazee to the Sha Zaddah,
" in which he exculpated himſelf, by throwing the whole blame of the oppoſition made to
" his arms, on the machinations of the Engliſh. Mr. Haſtings, in his letter in anſwer to
" mine, ſeemed to think it impoſſible ſuch a ſtep could have been taken by the Nabob, or
" indeed, that he could have ſent any arazee at all; however, in a ſubſequent letter from
" him, of the 27th, he finds out, that an arazee was ſent, though different in purport to
" that I informed him of: as I thought it moſt eſſential to us, to trace, if poſſible, the
" truth, I employed an emiſſary to Camgar Khan; the conſequence of which has been a
" phirmaund from the Sha Zaddah, encloſing a copy of the old Nabob's arazee to him, with
" an apology for not ſending the original; a copy of the copy I ſend you encloſed, and re-
" queſt your ſentiments, how and in what light this appears to you. If the copy is authen-
" tic, the caſe is plain, that this man, for whom we have drawn the ſword, would not ſcru-
" ple, if drove to any extremity, to make his peace by the ſacrifice of his protectors. The
" phirmaund, I ſuppoſe, differs little in matters from that he ſent you; he reminds me of
" the obligations the Engliſh lay under to his anceſtors; and offers a charte blanche for the
" Company, provided we will draw our forces off from that doer of evil, and join them to
" his ſtandard, which he adviſes me he has at preſent fixed at Surgur; and in a few days
" purpoſes to erect it in Muxadavad, &c."

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Anſwer, dated Camp at Dignagur, the 15th April 1760.

" I am now to anſwer your two laſt obliging favours of the 7th and 9th; the receipt of
" which I acknowledged in my laſt of the 12th inſtant. In order to come to the truth, with
" regard to the Nabob's arazee to the Prince, Mr. Haſtings had recourſe to the Nabob's
" Perſian writer; a man, who has on many occaſions given him proofs of attachment and
" fidelity. The moment he ſet his eyes on the paper, he declared it to be a forgery: may
" I beg leave to refer you to Mr. Haſtings for the reaſons he gave for it, as that gentleman's
" knowledge in the language will enable him to give you a clearer idea of theſe diſtinctions
" in addreſſes and the ſtile of their letters than I can pretend to; for my part I own, after
" Mr. Haſtings had repeated them to me, they were ſo ſatisfactory as to convince me, the
" probability of its being a forgery was greatly in the Nabob's favour.

" Two days, Sir, before I received your letter, the Nabob and his ſon were with me,
" and I found the old man big with ſomething that he did not well know how to begin
" breaking to me; I helped him forward all I could, by thoſe kind of aſſurances which of-
" ten open the hearts of men, and he then told me that he had wrote to the Prince, and

had

" had received an anſwer, ſuch a one as gave him hopes with other circumſtances, that th
" Prince might be inclinable to treat, and put himſelf perhaps in his power; but that he
" knew he (the Prince) would not do this, without I would be his ſecurity for his ſafety:
" the Nabob was deſirous to know in ſuch a caſe, how I would act; but the main drift of
" his diſcourſe was to find out, in ſhort, how far I would be conſenting, in caſe, by the
" means of this treaty, the Prince would truſt himſelf ſo far in his power as to give him an
" opportunity of diſplaying the true eaſtern ſyſtem of politics, by cutting him off. You
" may eaſily, Sir, gueſs my anſwer, That I was ready to do every thing for his ſervice
" conſiſtent with the honour of my country, and the ſacred regard we paid to our word;
" and beſides, that if the Prince made any addreſs to me on this ſubject of ſecurity, I muſt
" firſt have your inſtructions in the affair; and thus the converſation ended. I made it my
" buſineſs afterwards to enquire among ſome of the Nabob's people, on what grounds he
" founded theſe hopes of getting the Prince in his power, but they all aſſured me, as I ſuſ-
" pected, That they were no more than the idle reports of ſome of his minions, who knew
" ſuch ſtories would be well received and credited, and ſo found their advantage in flattering
" his fooliſh hopes.

" It is a very unfortunate circumſtance that we have to do with ſo weak a man, who nei-
" ther from principle nor merit deſerves the dignity of the ſtation we have raiſed him to;
" and in which he could not remain twenty-four hours, if we were to withdraw our protec-
" tion from him, and on which he now ſo much depends, that I am obliged to give him a
" guard of ſeapoys for the ſafety of his perſon. It does not appear to me, however, in juſ-
" tice or in reaſon, that we ought to ſupport him in the purſuit of unjuſtifiable meaſures,
" ſuch as he follows, in regard to the not diſcharging the vaſt arrears due to his troops, who,
" to a man, have publicly declared they will not draw their ſwords in his cauſe, and that
" only the fear of us prevents their uſing them againſt him: the conſequences of which will
" be, as to his part, that while he is not afraid of his head, he never will ſatisfy them; and
" to us, that though we may protect him againſt immediate danger to his perſon, we muſt
" relinquiſh the hopes of ſeeing the country free from troubles, while he keeps a body of
" troops he will not pay regularly, and over whom he has conſequently no command. This
" rotten ſyſtem we might ſtill, in ſome meaſure, ſupport, were we always aſſured none but
" the country powers would diſturb us. But I believe it is more than probable, that the
" French and Dutch, if not both, may ſome time or other renew their attempts to be con-
" cerned, and with how much the more probability of ſucceſs from the diſtracted ſtate of
" the country, while the Nabob continues to govern it ſo ill: the firſt opportunity I pro-
" poſe repreſenting all this to him in the ſtrongeſt light I poſſibly can, and ſhould our
" opinions agree, I ſhould take it as a favour if you would encloſe a letter from yourſelf on
" the ſubject; I will deliver it, and take that opportunity, as the beſt, to try what can be
" done by working on his fears; the only way, indeed, I am convinced, of managing him
" to our advantage and his good. In particular, Sir, you will pleaſe to enforce the payment
" of his troops, hinting, that if he delays it, I have your orders not to prevent their taking
" their own meaſures."

From this letter, I think, Gentlemen, my real ſentiments may be judged to appear in their ſtrongeſt light; and if ſuch was my way of thinking in the morning, it may be well ſuppoſed they might in a great degree influence the meaſures to which I concurred in the evening. My natural abhorrence of any bad or baſe action, appears, I think, ſtrongly expreſſed; nor is it leſs evident from what follows immediately after, how much reaſon and juſtice I had to treat any information of that ſort from the Nabob, with all that degree of contempt and diſbelief which it merited. After I was convinced and ſatisfied from my enquiries, how little foundation there was for the truth and probability of any ſuch event taking place, had not this latter proof ſtrongly prepoſſeſſed me, it is evident, I think, that I ſhould have followed my firſt ſentiments, which ſeem the moſt agreeable to my diſpoſition and nature. My opinion of the Nabob's ſituation and our own proſpects, are painted in their true colours, and may ſerve alſo to prove, how perplexed my own ſituation muſt have been at the time.

All theſe circumſtances conſidered, did it not become abſolutely neceſſary for me to give the Nabob ſome ſuch proof as would ſatisfy him, and calm thoſe fears and apprehenſions, which the tenor of Mr. Holwell's conduct had ſo ſtrongly impreſſed on his mind? Bad as I thought of the whole ſyſtem, yet I was bound by all the means in my power to ſupport it. A mutual confidence between me and the Nabob was eſſentially neceſſary for this purpoſe, and could it be done more effectually than by removing the cauſe of his miſtruſt? In a few hours after ſuch an opportunity offers, and was it not my buſineſs and my duty to embrace it? the proof of ſuch a nature as beſt could anſwer every good purpoſe which I could propoſe from it: a proof the beſt calculated in point of time and circumſtance that could happen, and the ſtrongeſt ſelf-conviction, when I gave it, that the meaſure which it hath appeared to tend to, was ſuch as I knew could never take place. Let me requeſt, Gentlemen, that the evidence which this letter conveys of the true ſtate of my mind at that time, may have all the weight and attention I think it deſerves; and how ſtrong the preſumption, that it muſt have influenced me in the act which followed almoſt immediately after.

To the tranſaction itſelf I am now come, and as many particulars as I can charge my memory with attending on it, I ſhall relate.

On the 15th of April, in the evening, I waited on the Nabob; my intention in the viſit was to introduce Captain Knox to take his leave, as he was the next day to march for Patna, with a detachment under his command; and I further wanted to engage the Nabob to ſend with him a body of cavalry: Mr. Luſhington, as my interpreter, of courſe was with me.

We called in our way firſt on the Nabob's ſon, with whom we ſtaid a few minutes, and I remember his preſenting me at that time with a palanquin, which he had promiſed me a long time before, and had come up that day from Muxadavad. The little circumſtances which I may throw into the courſe of this my account of the affair, are meant only to ſhew, that I am poſſeſſed of that degree of recollection, which muſt give evidence to the truth of what I may relate of the more eſſential parts of this tranſaction.

From the young Nabob's tents, we ſet out to his father's: I think I had mentioned to his ſon my wanting a body of cavalry to go with Captain Knox; certain it is, that a little after our arrival at the old Nabob's, I deſired Mr. Luſhington to ſettle this buſineſs with the young one; for which purpoſe they went into another apartment; where they, with the Patna jemidars, remained for ſome time talking and ſettling this affair, leaving Captain Knox, with the old Nabob and me, in another part of the tent. What the ſubject of the converſation was between us I cannot recollect; but this I am very certain of, that the little which could have paſſed muſt have been of a very general nature, as there was only Captain Knox to explain between us; for ſo imperfect at that time was his knowledge of the country language, that it was impoſſible that he could interpret any regular ſeries of converſation between the Nabob and me. I can recollect my going into the tent where the young Nabob and Mr. Luſhington were ſitting, with the Patna jemidars abovementioned, in order to know what was determined on; how long I remained there, and how ſoon after they were diſmiſſed, I cannot pretend to charge my memory with: all I know with certainty is, that they were diſmiſſed, and all other attendants; and I think that the old Nabob then changed his ſeat, and came into that part of the tent where his ſon had been with Mr. Luſhington; that there was then preſent the Nabob, his ſon, Captain Knox, Mr. Luſhington, myſelf, and a Perſian writer or two. To the beſt of my remembrance the Nabob's head Hircarrah, one Chuckan, was there; I am ſatisfied, at leaſt, he was there ſome part of the time. I then well and confidently remember a letter being produced and read (by whom I cannot ſay) and by that letter I think the ſubject was firſt opened; but that Mr. Luſhington explained it to me, as he did every other part of the converſation, I ſolemnly declare to be moſt true, and that it was the firſt time, and the only time, I ever heard of the matter, and that Mr. Luſhington, and Mr. Luſhington alone, was and could be the interpreter on the occaſion.

The purport of the letter was, that one Conderoy, formerly a ſervant of Cander Khan, made an offer of delivering the Prince into our hands; but if that could not be done, he would cut him off. The letter, I think, was addreſſed to that head Hircarrah Chuckan, whoſe character for untruth, I believe, ſome gentlemen here can vouch for. However, I will not affirm this as a poſitive truth, but of this I am moſt ſure, that after having heard the letter explained, I repeatedly gave it as my opinion, that I believed it all a forgery, contrived by the Nabob, on purpoſe to be ſatisfied, by my conſenting to, or rejecting it, what judgment he might form of the nature of the correſpondence then carrying on by Mr. Holwell, and how far I was concerned in it: I remember well my enquiring into the means of this being carried into execution, and many other queſtions, that would have enabled me to judge how far I might give credit to the ſcheme. The anſwers to which queſtions I remember but ſerved the more to confirm me in a perfect diſbelief of the whole matter, and make me, with ſo much eaſe, give my concurrence to the ſcheme, as, without any danger to the Prince, I knew it might ſerve to gain my ends with the Nabob.

The reaſon why I was aſked to ſeal the paper in conjunction with the two Nabobs, was to aſcertain to the man the reward which was promiſed him; for ſuch was the ſtate of their credit in the country at that time, that few cared to truſt their words, even for ſo ſmall a ſum; and without this proof I knew nothing was done towards ſatisfying the Nabob; I therefore readily conſented to it, and deſired, in conſequence, Mr. Luſhington, to ſend for my ſeal.

I do not remember any objection made by either of the gentlemen with me. I have the faint recollection of any expreſſion of diſlike in Captain Knox's countenance, which might have firſt introduced the reaſons which he ſo well recollects in his depoſition, that I gave for the neceſſity of going the lengths I did, and with which, to the beſt of my knowledge, he was well ſatisfied. As to Mr. Luſhington, there was no objection ſtarted by him, that I can in the leaſt recollect or remember, but of this I am confident, that if he had thought the meaſure improper, or unjuſtifiable, he would have made objections.—And for the truth of this I can appeal to himſelf, conſcious as he muſt be of the intimacy and friendſhip that ſubſiſted between us, which was ſuch as made him ready, on all public occaſions, to give me his ſentiments with freedom, which were ever by me received with kindneſs, as I always had the greateſt confidence in him, from a thorough ſenſe of his capacity and merit: I muſt own, indeed, that I have ſeen his depoſitions on the affair with the greateſt concern and ſurprize; that he might have forgot all that paſſed was poſſible, but that his memory ſhall be ſo treacherous as to make him remember things ſo evidently contrary and oppoſite to what

what really happened at the time, is, indeed, to me a matter of no leſs aſtoniſhment than concern. However, it is poſſible that I may help his recollection, by a few queſtions, when we ſhall have the honour, together with Captain Knox, to appear before you.

While my ſeal was going for, I believe the paper was writing, and as my tents were at ſome diſtance from the Nabob's, ſome time muſt have elapſed before they could come; perhaps half an hour; and all which time I preſume the converſation was continued on the ſubject.—When the ſeal came, it was put to the paper, by whom I recollect not, nor does it, indeed, matter much, for whoever did it, it was done at my deſire, and by my directions; I have mentioned this circumſtance, as I have been given to underſtand, that ſome ſtreſs has been laid on this particular act of Mr. Luſhington, as if by it he could be deemed an acceſſary in the tranſaction; in conſequence of the further orders given by the Court of Directors, that if any Europeans were concerned in the affair, they ſhould likewiſe be diſmiſſed their ſervice. There is no need ſure of adding to the weight of what I feel on this occaſion, the painful reflection that any others ſhould ſuffer for an action intirely my own. If Mr. Luſhington put the ſeal, it was to ſave me the trouble; it was not his duty, nor his office, nor did I ever eſteem it ſo, nor underſtand that it was. My ſeal was in general affixed by a Perſian writer; and if now the queſtion was aſked me, who it was, to the beſt of my remembrance, that then did that ſervice, I ſhould certainly ſay it was one of the Perſian writers then preſent; not indeed from recollection, becauſe from the diſtance of time, this circumſtance has eſcaped my memory, but becauſe there was no reaſon at that time for changing our general cuſtom, which as I have ſaid was for the Perſian writers to ſeal the letters; and that it was ſo from no other reaſon, but that in any attempts of that kind we commonly make a blot inſtead of an impreſſion; as their manner differs from ours, it requires practice to do it as it ought. In ſhort, Captain Knox, who was with me, by mere accident, may as well be deemed an acceſſary as Mr. Luſhington; the act was my own entirely, and whatever was done, was done by my directions and orders.

Soon after the ſeal being put, I took my leave, and from that time, or rather from the day after, in which I informed the Governor of what had paſſed, I never once thought more of the matter, at leaſt ſeriouſly enough to make me think I had done amiſs. Mr. Amyatt, in his letter to the board, mentions his having wrote to me on the ſubject, and that my anſwer was, "As to the affair of the three ſeals, as there was nothing particular mentioned, I "have no particular charge to anſwer." And this proceeded from a confidence then, which belief ſtill held me (until ſome days ago that I ſaw the original paper) that no mention had ever been made in the paper on what account the money was to be paid, but that it was mentioned in general, ſuch a ſum ſhould be given, when he had performed the ſervice he had engaged to do the Nabob. I do not mention this as meaning it ſhould be eſteemed any part of my juſtification; it is only to clear up that paſſage.—I never denied what had been done; and the extract which I now produce of my letter to the Governor, dated the 16th of April, the very day after, is, I think a ſufficient proof of it.

Extract of Colonel Caillaud's Letter to Mr. Holwell, dated Camp at Dignagur, the 16th April 1760.

"In my laſt I informed you, Sir, of ſome of the Nabob's late notable ſchemes, but laſt "night he made me acquainted with another ſtill more notable; and in which alſo I am "concerned to little effect. I believe, however, there could be no harm in trying; this "it is:

"One Conderry, duan to Comger Khan, wrote to the Nabob, and has engaged to put "the Prince in his hands, or to cut him off, if the Nabob would agree to give him a lack "of rupees, and the command of Comger Khan's country; and if the Nabob accepted of "theſe propoſals, the promiſe was to be made, ſigned, and ſealed, by the two Nabob's and "myſelf, all which was done laſt night."

Mr. Holwell's anſwer, under date the 22d, I will inſert at large. I muſt obſerve, that there has been a miſtake in the date of my letter, or in the copies taken, for in his letter he acknowledges receipts of mine of the 15th and 17th; in my copy book, the date of the letter is the 16th. I did not write to him on the 17th, nor indeed until the 20th, ſo it is plain he received the letter, which I call mine of the 16th, and this he acknowledges as of the 17th.

Mr. Holwell's Letter to Colonel Caillaud, dated 22d April 1760.

"I have the pleaſure of your two favours of the 15th and 17th, and muſt take a further "day to reply to them more circumſtantially; for the preſent I encloſe you a letter to the "old Nabob to the purport of your requeſt, and with it a copy for your peruſal, and, I "hope, approval; it contains, I think, nothing but what ſhould at all events be urged to "him at this juncture. Something muſt be done, and ſoon, to recover the currency of the "trade of the provinces, or the Company muſt be loſt: the ſale of their woollen goods, "copper, &c. Exports are totally obſtructed, their inveſtment in conſequence of this, and "the unavoidable ſtoppage of the tankas, wholly at a ſtand, and not more than a lack and a half

" half in their treaſury, particulars you ſhould be neceſſarily acquainted with, as they ariſe " from the perpetual troubles of the country, perpetuated I may too juſtly ſay, by the wick- " edneſs, as well as weakneſs, of thoſe who govern it.

" To give you what are ſtill my ſentiments on the Nabob's arzdaſht to the Prince, and my " reaſons for thoſe ſentiments, I now encloſe you a copy of my reply to Mr. Haſtings on that " head, and think my judgment of this affair more confirmed from the circumſtance recited " in your favour of the 15th; to wit, the Nabob's having acknowledged to you his writing " to the Prince, and that his reply gave him hopes he was inclined to treat; the carrying on " this concealed correſpondence with the Prince, I cannot look on in any other light than " as the higheſt infringement of the reſpect and deference due to your ſtation, and the treaty " ſubſiſting between us; and here it becomes, Sir, needful to remark, it is full time the " Nabob ſhould be convinced he is not to look upon you as an officer ſent to ſubmit impli- " citly to his orders or ſentiments, but as his coadjutor and protector in the war! and ſhould, " at any time, his wretched politics dictate meaſures, which appear in your opinion de- " ſtructive of the general end propoſed, I hope, and doubt not, but you will think yourſelf " fully authorized and peremptorily to over-rule them without loſing time in application " here; as I am very well ſatisfied we may depend on the propriety of your conduct in the " command and truſt you are inveſted with. I have the honour to be, with very real " eſteem, &c."

I have tranſcribed the whole of the above letter, as I think, Gentlemen, it ſtill gives a further proof of what I have already advanced, as to the then critical and perplexed ſituation of our affairs. Mr. Holwell ſays, when he acknowledges the receipt of thoſe two letters of the 15th and 17th, that he muſt take a further day to reply to them more circumſtantially; but this was never done in any of his ſubſequent letters, as to the principal point in queſtion; of which, if you ſhould have any doubts, they may be eaſily ſatisfied by laying before you the whole courſe of our correſpondence together. This anſwer of Mr. Holwell's, I think, proves, at leaſt tacitly, his opinion of the affair; and what is ſtill more, you will pleaſe to obſerve, that though in my account of the tranſaction to him, I gave no particular reaſons for my motives in going ſuch lengths; and though my own words, " That there could be " no harm in trying," ſeem to imply, as if I admitted, at leaſt, a poſſibility; yet the lit- tle probability of it muſt have appeared in ſo ſtrong a light to the Governor, that he never once cenſures me as guilty even of an indiſcretion, much leſs of a crime; on the contrary, he ſeems rather inclined, from the letter, to approve my conduct in general, and conſe- quently to encreaſe in his confidence.

It becomes neceſſary, however, Gentlemen, to inform you why I did not make the Go- vernor acquainted with the real motives of my conduct, and contented myſelf with ſo ge- neral an account of the tranſaction; and this I am induced to do, that I may clear up any impreſſions to my diſadvantage which might ariſe from thoſe words, " There is no harm in " trying," which if not yet accounted for, might, notwithſtanding my ſolemn declaration to the contrary, convey an idea, that I admitted at leaſt a poſſibility of the ſcheme taking place. In doing this, I muſt touch upon a ſubject which I willingly would have avoided, but I cannot, in ſo dear a cauſe, as that of my reputation and character, leave any thing out, which I think may tend to clearing of it up to your ſatisfaction.

Mr. Holwell's general character and diſpoſition is well known in India, and many were the cautions which I received from thoſe who knew him beſt, to be on my guard againſt him. This naturally excluded any great degree of confidence on my ſide. But I was cautious alſo of myſelf, and not willing haſtily to arraign and condemn his conduct, fearing the conſe- quences of a mind already tainted with prejudices againſt him, which might have biaſſed my judgment, and led me to cenſure actions in him, which perhaps, more impartially inclined, I might have approved in others: and though I might have been ever ſo much in the right, ſuch a ſubject between him and me muſt certainly have given riſe to altercation and diſpute, which could not but have added to the confuſion of our affairs. I therefore forebore as long as I poſ- ſibly could, and for the public good I rather choſe to avoid every thing that might of- fend, while I could do it conſiſtently with my duty. My motives, had I given them, muſt have implied a very heavy cenſure on his conduct, when I could have only told him, that the whole courſe of his extraordinary behaviour towards the Nabob, and that particular part of it in carrying on a ſecret correſpondence with the Prince, at the very time that he was ſo loudly cenſuring the ſame ſtep in the Nabob, had forced me to concur in a meaſure, to which I never would have conſented if any other proof could have ſatisfied the Nabob, that we were not making the beſt terms we could for ourſelves, without any regard to him, or the mutual engagements ſubſiſting between us. As I did not therefore, for the reaſons above- mentioned, acquaint Mr. Holwell with my motives, I was obliged in my account of the tranſaction itſelf, to throw in, at leaſt, ſuch a degree of probability attending on it, as would ſave me from appearing in the ridiculous light of having conſented to a meaſure, which I was proving could anſwer no end, and that was my only reaſon for inſerting the words I did; nor does it leſs evidently, I think, appear from the ingenuous and open manner in which I relate the tranſaction itſelf, but that I muſt have been conſcious to myſelf how well prepared I was, from the innocence of my real intentions, to anſwer any charge, which at that time might have been brought againſt me.

You

You have had now, Gentlemen, laid before you in all ſincerity and truth, all that I have to offer in my juſtification; but I cannot conclude without taking ſome notice of the manner, in which this heavy charge is exhibited againſt me.

The letter from the honourable the Court of Directors begins by theſe words (which is all that appears as the ground of their charge) "It having been ſtrongly reported," but whether theſe reports were of a public or of a private nature, how far examined into, and who were the authors of them, are points which I am left to gueſs at, though I own I thought ſome farther lights into the accuſation, or at leaſt, the names of my accuſers, was a ſatisfaction due to my character; but which I am deeply concerned to find, I was not thought worthy to receive. Little, I own, did I expect ſuch a return for upwards of nine years ſervices; and in the courſe of which I had flattered myſelf that my conduct had been irreproachable; and if I may be permitted to ſay it, I was ſtill the more confirmed in this fond hope, by having been honoured by that body with ſome diſtinguiſhing marks of favour. I muſt further own, that their laſt rewards (which I have ever gratefully acknowledged, was due alone to their intereſt and ſolicitations) were of ſuch a nature as far exceeded my beſt ſervices: impreſſed therefore with the higheſt ſenſe of gratitude for their favours, happy in the confidence of their approbation, and anxiouſly purſuing the only means in my power, by which I could acquit myſelf towards them; I am unhappy enough in one inſtant to find all my beſt hopes fruſtrated, my reputation blaſted (a reputation confirmed and eſtabliſhed by themſelves) and all this owing to a ready belief of the very firſt report to my diſadvantage.

As to my accuſers, I have ſaid I am given leave to gueſs at them, however, ſome friends have been kind enough to give me that private ſatisfaction, which I thought was my due from public juſtice. I am now only ſurpriſed, that every report which that worthy man has ſo induſtriouſly ſpread and propagated againſt me, to the prejudice of my character, has not obtained equal credit, and been made another part of the charge againſt me. I mean the report "of my having alſo ordered the aſſaſſination of the young Nabob, whoſe death was "given out to have happened by a flaſh of lightning." This I introduce as a proof of the great degree of credit, which my accuſer deſerves. Indeed, as I have acknowledged the other fact, ſo far I muſt own, and do the gentleman juſtice, that there was ſome truth in the firſt part of his information; but whether led to it by a natural diſpoſition to malice, ſcandal, and calumny, or whether actuated by the more noble zeal for the common injury done to humanity, public honour, and juſtice, are points which I think deſerved ſome attention from the reſpectable body, who received his information, and might have juſtly been a ſubject well deſerving their ſtricteſt enquiry: would it not alſo have been but fair and juſt for this body to have conſidered his ſtation in their ſervice, and how far it rendered him a competent judge of public tranſactions from the ſuppoſed knowledge he could have in country affairs, in which he never was employed? If the fact had really been as repreſented by him, the Court of Directors muſt have been ſatisfied, that it was of a public nature, or how could one of his rank have come by his intelligence: and if of a public nature, why did it not come to them in a proper channel, and from whence alone, in honour and juſtice to their ſervants, complaints ſhould ever be heard? The Court of Directors muſt either ſuppoſe that their ſervants in council are very deficient in their duty, or that the affair was miſrepreſented to them, ſince no notice was taken of it here at the Board, from whence they might naturally ſuppoſe the account would have come for their own honour, had I been as guilty as the ſtory they credited ſeemed to make me. All theſe circumſtances conſidered, ſhould have had, I think, ſome weight, and might have induced them to ſhew a greater degree of tenderneſs, than appears in the nature of the enquiry; eſpecially in favour of one whoſe character to their knowledge was free from ſtain or blemiſh.

Such, however, is my confidence in the cauſe of truth, that ſtill I hope the ſhame will fall on thoſe who beſt deſerve it; and that the impartial part of mankind will as freely acquit me, as I have been acquitted by my own conſcience in the whole courſe of the affair.

I am ſatisfied alſo, that juſtice will have her turn, and that thoſe from whom I think I have received this undeſerved injury to my reputation, will be as ready (when convinced of my innocence) to make me all the amends in their power.

But this caſe of mine now, gentlemen, becomes more immediately your own. It is from your opinion and deciſion, that the impartial world muſt judge and determine. To you all the facts recited muſt appear in their ſtrongeſt point of view. To you the truth of the arguments I have uſed in my defence, muſt appear in all their force; and the ſtrength of the proofs I have brought in ſupport of them, are beſt to be determined by you alone, whoſe knowledge of every particular, by being on the ſpot, muſt make your judgments much more perfect and diſcerning, than thoſe who at ſo great a diſtance are hereafter to determine on my conduct.

By your opinions, therefore, I am to ſtand or fall; well pleaſed and happy to ſubmit the cauſe of innocence and truth to the deciſion of men of honour and juſtice.

I have the honour to be, with perfect reſpect,
Honourable Sir and Sirs,
Your moſt obedient, and
Moſt humble ſervant,

Calcutta, the 4th October 1762.

John Caillaud.

Colonel Caillaud's Letter. L. R. No. 15.

He alſo ſends in another letter, requeſting that after we have peruſed the above apology, we will be pleaſed to appoint a day for examining Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington, on ſome queſtions which he is deſirous of putting to them.

" Honourable Sir and Sirs,
" After the peruſal of the papers, which this morning I have the honour of laying before " you, may I further requeſt that you will be pleaſed to appoint a day on which Captain " Knox, Mr. Luſhington, and myſelf, may appear before you.
" I have the honour to be, with all reſpect,
" Gentlemen,
" Your moſt obedient, and
" Moſt humble ſervant,
" Calcutta,
" Oct. 4th 1762." " John Caillaud."

Day appointed for examining Colonel Caillaud's witneſſes.

Agreed we meet on Thurſday next, to examine any witneſſes which Colonel Caillaud may think proper to call in his defence.

Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington ſummoned to attend.

Ordered, therefore, that the ſecretary do adviſe Colonel Caillaud thereof, and ſummon the attendance of Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington.

P. Amyatt,
W. M'Gwire,
W. Hay,
H. Watts.

Fort William, the 7th Oct. 1762.

Thurſday. At a Conſultation; Preſent,
The worſhipful Peter Amyatt, Eſquire, Preſident.
William M'Gwire, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
William Hay, Eſquire,
Hugh Watts, Eſquire,
The Governor indiſpoſed.

The proceedings of the 4th inſtant, on this ſubject, being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and ſigned.

Board met to examine Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington, on behalf of Colonel Caillaud.

The Board being met to examine Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington, on ſuch queſtions as Colonel Caillaud might be deſirous of putting to them, theſe gentlemen were accordingly called in.

Mr. Luſhington's Letter. L. R. No. 16.

Mr. Luſhington, previous to his examination, delivers the following letter, dated this day.

To the honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident and Governor, &c. Council.

" Honourable Sir and Sirs,
" When my depoſition was firſt taken, I had the ſtrongeſt conviction within my own mind, " that either Mr. Haſtings or Captain Knox firſt interpreted between the Nabob and Colo- " nel Caillaud, in the affair relative to the three ſeals, and in conſequence of this convic- " tion depoſed ſo accordingly; but from ſome converſations I have lately had with the Co- " lonel and Captain Knox, I am fully convinced that Mr. Haſtings was not preſent, and " that there were only Captain Knox and myſelf with the Colonel; and as Captain Knox " could not be ſufficient maſter enough of the language to manage ſuch a converſation, of " courſe there is the greateſt probability that it muſt have been I alone who interpreted upon " the occaſion, and conſequently that I opened the diſcourſe; though I cannot even yet re- " collect this laſt circumſtance, and indeed it is no wonder, conſidering the length of time " ſince the affair, that many particulars ſhould have ſlipped my memory.
" I am, with great reſpect,
" Honourable Sir and Sirs,
" Your moſt obedient,
" Humble Servant,
" Henry Luſhington."

Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington ſworn.

Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington being duly ſworn to anſwer to the truth of all ſuch queſtions as might be put to them by Colonel Caillaud, or the Board;

Queſtions

[Queſtions by Colonel Caillaud to Captain Knox, with his anſwers.]

Colonel Caillaud preſented the following paper of queſtions to be put to Captain Knox, to which, upon their being tendered him, returned the following anſwers.

Depoſition, No. 7.

Colonel Caillaud's Queſtions to Captain Knox.	Captain Knox's Anſwers.
From your firſt depoſition, Sir, taken at Shawpoor, you remember being with me that evening, on the 15th April 1760, at the Nabob's, when I ſealed a paper in conjunction with him and his ſon, relative to the Sha Zadda. You have alſo remembered, that the reaſon of your being with me at that time was, to be introduced to the Nabobs, in order to take your leave, as you were then under orders to march with a detachment to Patna.	Anſ. I perfectly well remember this circumſtance.
1ſt. Queſt. Can you remember, or recollect, if Mr. Haſtings was there the whole or any part of the time that evening?	Anſ. I am poſitive Mr. Haſtings was not there any part of the time.
2d. Have you any remembrance, or did it ever come to your knowledge, either by report or from my own information, that Mr. Holwell was then carrying on a correſpondence with the prince?	Anſ. Yes, I remember it from your own information, and Mr. Holwell likewiſe informed me, that he had received letters from the prince and Camjar Cam, when I was in Calcutta, a few days before this affair happened.
3d. Can you recollect from any part of the Nabob's converſation, or from any other circumſtances, any appearance of diſtreſs at that time in his ſituation?	Anſ. No, I can't recollect any appearance of diſtreſs from the Nabob's converſation that evening; but his diſtreſſed ſituation was well known to the whole army, on account of the diſcontentedneſs of his troops, and the bad ſituation of his affairs at that time.
4th. Do you remember any objection, made by you, at that time, to the meaſures or any expreſſion of diſlike at it. If you do be pleaſed to relate and explain them?	Anſ. If I made any objection, it was by ſaying, "That it was a pity ſo fine a young "fellow ſhould fall in that manner," or words to that purpoſe.
5th. Do you remember or recollect what reaſons I made uſe of on the occaſion, to ſatisfy myſelf and you that I was acting properly; and can you recollect that I explained to you the neceſſity I was under to give my ſeeming concurrence in this affair?	Anſ. In the firſt depoſition I have before given in this affair, I have declared that you did give reaſons, and what theſe reaſons were which I perfectly remember.
6th. You can remember, and recollect, as it appears in the courſe of your depoſitions, that I gave it as my firm opinion and belief that the letter was a forgery, and the whole tranſaction a contrivance of the Nabob's, in order to ſound our diſpoſitions towards him.	Anſ. I remember your being of opinion that the letter was a forgery; and I remember alſo your mentioning it ſeveral times that evening, that you abſolutely believed it to be a forgery.
7th. Can you remember or recollect, amongſt the objections ſtarted againſt the probability of the ſcheme, that the ſmallneſs of the ſum to be given was one amongſt them?	Anſ. I remember that the ſmallneſs of the ſum for putting ſuch an affair in execution was mentioned as a reaſon againſt the probability of it.
8th. Can you remember or recollect making any more objections after I had given you my reaſons?	Anſ. To the beſt of my remembrance I made none.
9th. Can you recollect or remember that in a laughing manner I made uſe of the following words, or ſome to the ſame purpoſe, "That I wiſhed your head was as ſafe as the "prince's from danger," alluding to the ſervice you were then going to be employed on?	Anſ. I have ſome faint remembrance that you made uſe of ſuch an expreſſion.
10th. Can you remember or recollect that I was very particular in my enquiries in what manner this meaſure was to be carried into execution, by what means and how?	Anſ. I remember that you made ſuch enquiries.
11th. Can you recollect whether any ſatisfactory anſwers were given by the Nabob to thoſe queſtions.	Anſ. No.—I cannot recollect the Nabob's anſwers to thoſe queſtions.

12th. Anſ.

12th. Can you recollect or remember if at that time, or on any other occaſion in which I might make mention of the Shah Zadda in diſcourſe, in what manner and in what terms I was uſed to expreſs my ſentiments on his account?

Anſ. I have often heard you pity the Shah's ſituation, and that you was ſorry circumſtances obliged you to act againſt him.

13th. From your long acquaintance and knowledge of me, do you think or believe, Sir, that if the meaſure had appeared to me at that time ſuch as could probably or poſſibly take place, that I would have conſented to it?

Anſ. In the courſe of my acquaintance with you, Sir, I never preſumed to form a thought ſo much to your diſadvantage.

Queſtions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Luſhington, with his anſwers.

Captain Knox having made anſwers to the ſeveral Queſtions tendered him; Colonel Caillaud then preſented a paper of Queſtions to be put to Mr. Luſhington, who returned thereto the following anſwers.

Depoſition, No. 8.

Colonel Caillaud's Queſtions to Mr. Luſhington.

Mr. Luſhington's Anſwers.

1ſt. Queſt. As it appears by your 1ſt depoſition, given at Patna, that only mention is made in it of cutting off the Sha Zadda, pray can you remember or recollect, Sir, that the putting of him in the Nabob's power was the firſt point; the other only an alternative in caſe the firſt could not be effected.

Anſ. Yes. Upon recollection I do remember that the circumſtance of putting him into the Nabob's power was mentioned.

2d. Can you remember or recollect to have ever heard any thing upon ſuch a ſubject before?

Anſ. No; to the beſt of my remembrance I never did.

3d. Can you recollect or remember that evening of the 15th April 1760, when we went together to the Nabob, that ſome ſpace of time after we had been with him, that the Patna Jamidars, and all other attendants, were ordered to withdraw, and that we were afterwards in private with the Nabob and his ſon, and 2 or 3 more black people.

Anſ. I remember that evening I was ſome time employed with the Chuta Nabob, to perſuade the Patna Jamidars to attend Captain Knox, which circumſtance I have mentioned in my firſt depoſition. I am certain that the Patna Jamidars were not there at the time of ſealing the paper, nor any more perſons than what I have mentioned in my ſaid depoſition.

4th. Can you recollect or remember Captain Knox being with us the whole time?

Anſ. To the beſt of my remembrance he was there the whole time.

5th. Do you remember or recollect a man by name Chuckiman, attendant on the old Nabob?

Anſ. Yes; I very well remember that man.

6th. What was the man's office about the Nabob.

Anſ. He was in the ſtation of head Hircarrah, which implies the perſon who has under his charge all the Hircarrahs, Spies, &c. and through whom their intelligence paſſes to the Nabob.

7th. Can you remember or recollect what opinion we entertained of that man's character in general?

Anſ. I remember that we always entertained a very bad opinion of him, though he was employed on both ſides; that is, to convey intelligence from the Nabob to the prince's camp, and bring back intelligence from thence to the Nabob's; we alſo thought he had much the ear of the old Nabob, and by his evil councils much hurted the affairs of the ſircar.

8th. Do you remember or recollect the above mentioned perſon being preſent the whole, or any part of the time during that tranſaction?

Anſ. I remember ſeeing him the firſt of the evening, and, I think, he was there when the ſeal was put to the paper. Indeed, from the nature of his office, it is moſt likely he was there.

9th. Can you remember or recollect that you made any objections, or expreſſed any diſlike to the meaſure which I was then purſuing in concurrence with the Nabob and his ſon?

Anſ. No.—I cannot ſay that I did.

10th. Have you any recollection or remembrance of the ſituation of our affairs at that

Anſ. I remember our affairs were in a very deſparate ſituation at that juncture; many inſtances

that time, if you have, and as you have perufed my apology—Do you think I have ſtated them with truth?

11th. Have you any knowledge, or can you remember or recollect, that Mr. Holwell was then carrying on a private correſpondence (meaning a correſpondence without the Nabob's knowledge) with the prince?

12th. Do you remember or recollect my often expreſſing, at that time, my diſlike of Mr. Holwell's way of acting in general towards the Nabob: in particular, my uneaſineſs on account of the above mentioned correſpondence, as likewiſe his behaviour in regard to Roydoolub and Nundcomar?

13th. In the courſe of ſuch converſation as we may have had together about the prince, can you remember or recollect the manner in which I uſed to expreſs my ſentiments of him?

To clear up a paſſage in a letter of Mr. Holwell's, dated the 1ſt April 1760, an extract of which has been laid before the board, and in which he ſays, "The Phirmaund, I "ſuppoſe, differs little in matter from that "he ſent you;" but as I have no recollection or remembrance of receiving any ſuch phirmaund from the prince, nor no ſuch tranſaction appears in the courſe of my evidence,

14th. I deſire to know, Sir, if you can remember or recollect my having ever received from the prince a paper of ſuch a nature, or of any ſort indeed but one phirmaund, which I received the day before the battle of Cercey.

15th. As it appears from your depoſition, Sir, taken at Patna, that you then could recollect but very few circumſtances of the tranſaction on that evening—Could you, do you think, now charge your memory with any further circumſtances relative to that affair, eſpecially ſince you have ſeen my apology, and from our converſation together with Captain Knox?

16th. Do you think, tho' you cannot aſſert it from recollection, that all which Captain Knox and I have advanced in our account of the affair is the truth?

inſtances I can give if it is thought neceſſary that I ſhould; and I really believe that what you have ſtated, as to the then ſituation of affairs in your letter to the board, are facts.

Anſ. Yes, I do remember it very well, and you often expreſſed your diſlike at it, and apprehenſions that it would give the Nabob much uneaſineſs, as he undoubtedly would get intelligence of it; and I have further a faint idea of a perſon's telling me that the Nabob knew of it, which I mentioned to you, but the perſon's name I cannot really remember.

Anſ. I well remember your often expreſſing your diſlike of Mr. Holwell's proceedings with regard to the Nabob; and many a time have we held converſations on that ſubject, how prejudicial it was to the Company's affairs that theſe two men could not agree.

Anſ. Whenever you mentioned the prince you ſpoke of him with the higheſt reſpect, greatly pitied his misfortunes, and ſaid you ſhould be much happier if you were going to aſſiſt him in mounting the throne of Delhi, than you was then in oppoſing him.

Anſ. I do not remember your having received but one phirmaund, and that was at the time you ſpecify in the queſtion, brought to our camp by two Moguls, and of which you immediately adviſed the Chutah Nabob.

Anſ. The nature of my office of interpreter was ſuch, that I could not give much attention to the converſation that might paſs between Captain Knox and you; yet ſince you have refreſhed my memory with regard to ſome circumſtances which I could not recollect at the time of giving my firſt depoſition, two of which I ſhall mention; namely, your imagining that the letter was a forgery, and that you believed the Nabob wanted to try how ſincere you were in your friendſhip for him, and what lengths you would go to ſerve him.

Anſ. I have already ſaid that the nature of my office was ſuch as not to admit of my hearing the whole of the converſation; but I believe Captain Knox and you to be men of ſuch honour that you would advance nothing but the truth.

Queſtions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Haſtings, and his Anſwers.

Colonel Caillaud being deſirous of putting a few Queſtions to Mr. Haſtings, he was accordingly ſworn, and interrogated as follows.

Depoſition, No. 9.

Queſtions by Colonel Caillaud to Mr. Haſtings.

Mr. Haſtings's Anſwers.

1ſt. Queſtion. As you were at that time, Sir, in the field, and in quality of reſident to the

Anſ. I was not, to the beſt of my knowledge, and I think it could not have eſcaped my

the old Nabob, can you remember whether you were preſent or not that evening?

2d. You have peruſed my apology, Sir, and at that time, from your ſtation with the old Nabob, you muſt have been well acquainted with the ſituation of affairs; can you recollect if what I have advanced in my juſtification on that ſubject is a juſt and true account?

3d. Had you any knowledge at that time of Mr. Holwell's correſponding with the prince?

Anſ. I think it a very juſt and true account with reſpect to the Nabob's fears, the clamours of his army for their large arrears, and the diſtreſſed ſituation of his affairs in general at that time.

4th. Can you remember or recollect that the Nabob ever mentioned the affair to you; if not, have you however reaſon to believe, from any circumſtances, that he muſt have been informed of it?

Anſ. Not with the prince, that I remember, but with Camgar Cawn, which in effect was the ſame, as he was his prime miniſter. I had from his own letters to me, on the ſubject of the Arzee, ſuppoſed to have been wrote by the old Nabob to the prince.

5th. Suppoſing him then acquainted with it, do you think, from your knowledge of the nature and diſpoſition of the Nabob, whether ſuch an occurrence at that time muſt not have given him great cauſe of jealouſy and diſcontent?

Anſ. I do not remember that the Nabob mentioned any ſuch thing to me; that he knew it, and mentioned it to me in conſequence, I think very probable, as I had one, or if I miſtake not, more than one converſation with his Mouchey on the ſubject of the letter mentioned above; and I do not remember that he talked of it as a matter of ſecreſy, or that I enjoined him to conceal it.

Anſ. It certainly would.

6th. Can you remember or recollect in any of our converſations together, at or about that time, my expreſſing my diſlike at Mr. Holwell's conduct in general towards the Nabob, not only with regard to the correſpondence which at that time he was carrying on with the Prince, but alſo for his behaviour with regard to Rajah Doolubram, Rajahram, and Nundcomar?

Anſ. I can very well remember your expreſſing a diſlike at Mr. Holwell's correſponding with the Prince, as the Nabob might be equally alarmed at ſuch a ſtep, as Mr. Holwell was with the Nabob's correſponding with him: Such, I remember, was your opinion in the affair; and I muſt confeſs, my own too, with reſpect to Roydulub, Rajahram, and Nundcomar, both in the government of Colonel Clive and Mr. Holwell; it was always my opinion that the confidence ſhewn them, juſtly gave cauſe of ſuſpicion and uneaſineſs to the Nabob, and very probably might have been the ſubject of our converſation at that time, tho' at ſo great a diſtance I cannot recollect.

7th. Do you remember a perſon about the Nabob called Chucken, his employment, and the general character which he bore?

Anſ. I remember Chucken extremely well; he was the chief of the Nabob's Hircarras, or ſpies, and at that time in great truſt with him. I had always the worſt opinion of his honeſty, veracity, or, indeed, of his underſtanding.

Queſtions by Mr. Luſhington to Captain Knox, and his Anſwers.

Mr. Luſhington requeſting that the three following queſtions might be put to Captain Knox, they were tendered accordingly upon the oath he had already taken, and he gave in his anſwers thereto as follows.

Depoſition, No. 10.

Queſtions by Mr. Luſhington to Captain Knox.

Captain Knox's Anſwers.

1ſt. Are you poſitive, Sir, that I put the Colonel's ſeal with my own hand to the paper?

Anſ. I am poſitive that you ſent for the ſeal, and received it with your own hand, but I cannot be poſitive whether you put it with your own hand to the paper, or gave it to a Mounſhey to put it, as you mention in your depoſition, that there were ſuch people there.

2d. Do you remember or recollect that I gave the ſeal, by order of the Colonel, to the Mounſhey to affix it?

Anſ. I do not recollect that particular, but I think it is very probable you might have done ſo.

3d.

Anſ.

3d. Do you not remember or recollect that I was abſent that evening with the Chutah Nabob and Hahmed Khan Khoreſha, Rajah Dereje Narrain, and Rajah Fattee Sing, and that my buſineſs was to perſuade theſe three perſons to attend you on your expedition to Patna.

Anſ. I remember that you retired into a tent a few paces diſtant with the perſons you mention, but you was preſent the whole time that this affair was tranſacting, and you interpreted the whole affair between the Nabob and the Colonel.

Board to give their final opinion on Monday on the whole of this enquiry.

The Board taking into conſideration the ſubject of theſe ſeveral evidences, do not ſee that any more queſtions are neceſſary to be put to the gentlemen; and therefore

Agree to give their final opinion on Monday on the whole matter of this enquiry.

P. Amyatt.
W. M'Guire.
W. Hay.
H. Watts.

Fort William, the 11th October 1762.

At a Conſultation; Preſent,

Monday. The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
Peter Amyatt, Eſquire. William Hay, Eſquire.
William M'Guire, Eſquire. Hugh Watts, Eſquire.
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire.

The proceedings of the 7th inſtant on this ſubject being wrote fair, were now read, approved, and ſigned.

Colonel Caillaud having deſired the opinion of the Board upon the reaſons urged in his defence or apology; after a mature conſideration of the ſaid reaſons, and of all circumſtances, It is unanimouſly agreed and concluded,

That the repreſentation given in the ſaid defence of the ſtate of affairs of the country at that time, (that is, about the month of April 1760) is true and juſt.

That in ſuch circumſtances the Nabob's urgent account of his own diſtreſſes, the Colonel's deſire of making him eaſy, as the firſt thing neceſſary for the good of the ſervice, and the ſuddenneſs of the thing propoſed, might deprive him for a moment of his reflection, and ſurprize him into an aſſent to a meaſure, which, as to the meaſure itſelf, he could not approve.

That ſuch only were the motives which did, or could, influence Colonel Caillaud to aſſent to the Nabob's propoſal, is fully proved by Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington's depoſition of what paſſed at that time.

That we are fully convinced Colonel Caillaud had no other intereſt or view in the affair than what is mentioned in his apology: That his conſcience at the time never reproached him with a bad deſign: And therefore, upon the whole, as we are ſatisfied his intentions were good, although he erred in the meaſure; we think it ſhould be judged of with candour, and the proper allowances made for the difficult circumſtances he had to manage.

Colonel Caillaud wrote to in Conſequence.

In conſequence of the above opinion, Agree we cloſe this enquiry with the following letter to Colonel Caillaud:

To John Caillaud, Eſquire.

L. St. No. 12.

"SIR,

"We have received your letter of the 4th, accompanied with a memorial, containing a full "narrative of the tranſaction which the Company directed to be enquired into, together with "the ſtate of the Affairs of the country at that time; from whence you have ſhewn the "motives which occaſioned your aſſenting ſo far as is there mentioned to that tranſaction. "Having taken the ſame into conſideration, together with the anſwers of Captain Knox and "Mr. Luſhington to the queſtions propoſed to them, we annex hereunto a copy of our re"ſolutions thereupon; and as we are fully convinced that you had no ill intentions, ſo we "hope the honourable Court of Directors will in like manner judge of all the circumſtances "attending upon the meaſure with candour, and continue that favourable opinion towards "you, which your long and zealous ſervices merit.

"With this, and all other good wiſhes, we remain,

"Sir,

"Your moſt obedient,

"humble ſervants."

Captain Knox and Mr. Luſhington to return to their ſtations.

Ordered, The gentlemen who have been called from their ſtations to attend on this enquiry, do now return to them with all convenient expedition.

P. Amyatt.
W. M'Guire.
W. Hay.
H. Watts.

Opinion

Opinion of the Court of Directors, the 1ſt of June 1763.

" Reſolved, unanimouſly, That this Court are of opinion, that Colonel John Caillaud " ſtands honourably acquitted of any deſign or intention upon or againſt the life of the Sha " Zaddah; it ſufficiently appearing, that the motives for ſuffering his ſeal to be inadvertently " put to the agreement made by the then Nabob of Bengal, Jaffier Ally Khan, on the 15th " of April 1760, for the payment of a ſum of money for the ſeizing or cutting off that " Prince then in arms againſt the provinces under the adminiſtration of the ſaid Nabob, pro- " ceeded from the particular circumſtances of affairs of that time, his zeal for the Company's " ſervice, the ſuddenneſs of the occaſion, and a thorough conviction that it was an artifice of " the Nabob to try the ſincerity of the Company's attachment to him, and that no ill con- " ſequence would follow therefrom to the Sha Zaddah."

APPENDIX, No. 11.

Extract of General Letter to the Court of Directors, 29th of December 1759.

Paragraph 147. Having fully ſpoken to every branch of your affairs at this preſidency under their eſtabliſhed heads, we cannot, conſiſtent with the real anxiety we feel for the future welfare of that reſpectable body, for whom you and we are in truſt, cloſe this addreſs without expoſtulating with freedom on the unprovoked and general aſperity of your letter per Prince Henry Packet. Our ſentiments on this head will, we doubt not, acquire additional weight from the conſideration of their being ſubſcribed by a majority of your Council, who are at this very period quitting your ſervice, and conſequently independent and diſintereſted. Permit us to ſay, That the diction of your letter is moſt unworthy yourſelves and us, in whatever relation conſidered, either as maſters to ſervants, or gentlemen to gentlemen.—Meer inadvertencies and caſual neglects, ariſing from an unavoidable and moſt complicated confuſion in the ſtate of your affairs, have been treated in ſuch language and ſentiments, as nothing but the moſt glaring and premeditated frauds could warrant.—Groundleſs informations have, without further ſcrutiny, bore with you the ſtamp of truth, though proceeding from thoſe who had therein obviouſly their own purpoſe to ſerve, no matter at whoſe expence. Theſe have received from you ſuch countenance and encouragement, as muſt moſt aſſuredly tend to cool the warmeſt zeal of your ſervants here and every where elſe, as they will appear to have been only the ſource of general reflections thrown out at random againſt your faithful ſervants of this preſidency, in various parts of your letter now before us—Faithful to little purpoſe, if the breath of ſcandal, joined to private pique, or private and perſonal attachments, have power to blow away in one hour the merits of many years ſervices, and deprive them of that rank and thoſe riſing benefits, which are juſtly a ſpur to their integrity and application. The little attention ſhewn to theſe conſiderations, in the indiſcriminate favours heaped on ſome individuals, and undeſerved favours on others, will, we apprehend, leſſen that ſpirit of zeal ſo very eſſential to the well-being of your affairs, and conſequently in the end, if continued, prove the deſtruction of them.—Private views may, it is much to be feared, take the lead here from examples at home; and no gentleman hold your ſervice longer, nor exert themſelves further in it, than their own exigencies require. This being the real preſent ſtate of your ſervice, it becomes ſtrictly our duty to repreſent it in the ſtrongeſt light, or we ſhould with little truth, and leſs propriety, ſubſcribe ourſelves,

May it pleaſe your Honours,
Your moſt faithful ſervants,
Robert Clive.
J. Z. Holwell.
William B. Sumner.
W. M'Guire.

Fort William,
29 December 1759.

Extract of Company's General Letter to Bengal dated the 21ſt January 1761.

Paragraph 1ſt. We have taken under our ſerious conſideration, the general letter from our late Preſident and Council of Fort William, dated the 29th December 1759, and many paragraphs therein containing groſs inſults upon, and indignities offered to, the Court of Directors; tending to the ſubverſion of our authority over our ſervants, and a diſſolution of all order and good government in the Company's affairs: To put an immediate ſtop, therefore, to this evil, we do poſitively order and direct, that immediately upon the receipt of this letter, all thoſe perſons ſtill remaining in the Company's ſervice, who ſigned the ſaid letter of the 29th December 1759; viz. Meſſieurs John Zephaniah Holwell, Charles Stafford, Playdell, William Brightwell Sumner, and William M'Guire, be diſmiſſed from the Company's Service; and you are to take care that they be not permitted, on any conſideration, to continue in India, but that they are to be ſent to England by the firſt ſhips that return home the ſame ſeaſon you receive this letter.

APPENDIX, No. 12.

Extract of Company's General Letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

102d Par. THE copy of a Letter from Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell, dated in London, the 13th April 1763, addreſſed to Mr. John Wollaſton at Bengal, has been communicated to us, ſignifying he had appointed him his attorney there, for receiving, on his account, the remaining part of a teep or obligation Mr. Holwell has obtained from the Nabob (Coſſim Ally Khan) for two lacks of ſicca rupees, whereof he had received before his departure fifty thouſand, as a grateful acknowledgement for the friendſhip he had ſhewn him, and cautioning Mr. Wollaſton to uſe all his prudence and ſecrecy in the ſaid tranſaction; as were alſo the ſubjoined copies of a letter, from Mr. James Amyatt to Mr. Warren Haſtings (then in Bengal) dated the 2d of March, deſiring to know what anſwer ſhould be given to Mr. Holwell, relative to the obligation above mentioned, which had been left in Mr. Haſtings' management, and of a letter ſigned W. H. ſuppoſed to be from Mr. Haſtings in reply thereto, without date, ſignifying that he had received a lack of rupees, and accounted with him for it—Copies of all which, in the manner they were laid before us, we now tranſmit to you, for your further information in this affair.

Letter from J. Z. Holwell to Mr. John Wollaſton, dated 13th April 1763.

Dear Sir,

On my attornies, Meſſieurs Sumner and Smith, leaving Bengal, they delivered over to Meſſieurs Haſtings and Lyon, my ſucceeding attornies, all my affairs (with a clear ſtatement thereof, amounting in the whole to 203486. 6. with all neceſſary extracts from my general inſtructions) from whom I have not ſince received any remittances, the Godolphin not being yet imported with us.—To guard againſt the death or abſence at ſubordinates of Meſſieurs Haſtings and Lyon, I have thought it neceſſary to appoint you my ſucceeding attorney in ſuch caſe, and encloſe you powers for that purpoſe, which I requeſt your ready acceptance of, and ſhall write to thoſe Gentlemen accordingly. Another affair which will call for all your prudence and ſecrecy, it is needful I ſhould impart to you: after I had reſigned the ſervice, I had received from the Nabob a teep or obligation for two lacks ſicca, as a grateful acknowledgement for the friendſhip I had ſhewn him.—Fifty thouſand or thereabouts was paid to me before my departure.—The particulars Sunker and Weſton can furniſh you with.—The remaining balance and the teep I left to be recovered by Mr. Haſtings, and under his ſole and ſeparate management, but have not heard one ſyllable on the ſubject ſince I left him.—If you can by any means acquire the knowledge of his having made me any remittances on this account, I would not then have you ſpeak to him about it, otherwiſe to requeſt he would let you know what you ſhould write to me on the ſubject.

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend, and

obedient ſervant,

London, Norfolk Street, 13th April 1763.

J. Z. Holwell.

To Mr. John Wollaſton.

Letter from Mr. Amyatt to Mr. Haſtings, and Mr. Haſtings' anſwer thereto.

To Warren Haſtings, Eſq.

Sir,

The Packet being to be cloſed to-morrow, I ſhall be glad to know what anſwer muſt be given to Mr. Holwell concerning the teep or obligation that was given him by Coſſim Alli Cawn, and was left by him under your management. The particulars I mentioned to you ſome time ago. I am, Sir,

2d March.

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

JA. AMYATT.

Mr. Haſtings's Anſwer to Mr. James Amyatt's Letter.

Sir,

That I have received a lack of rupees, and accounted with him for it, which it is probable he knows already. I am

Your moſt humble ſervant,

W. H.

Fort William, the 12th January 1761.

Monday.

At a Conſultation; Preſent,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.

Peter Amyatt, Eſquire.

Lieutenant Colonel John Caillaud.

William Ellis, Eſquire.

William B. Sumner, Eſquire.
Harry Smyth, Eſquire.
Samuel Waller, Eſquire.
Culling Smith, Eſquire.

The Governor's Minute.

The Governor lays before the Board a letter from the Nabob, received laſt night, with an order on the phouzedar of Hugley, for 25,000 rupees therein mentioned, to be ſent as a preſent of congratulation from the Nabob to the Governor, on the occaſion of the late birth of his ſon.—Mr. Vanſittart declares himſelf equally ſenſible of the Nabob's compliment; but as he rejected for himſelf, and the other Gentlemen of the Committee, all former propoſals of private emolument, and has not to this time received a ſingle rupee from him; ſo neither will he, while there is a difficulty remaining with reſpect either to the Company's balance, or the arrears due to his own troops.—He deſires therefore, that the ſaid ſum of 25,000 Rs may be received into the Company's treaſury, in further part payment of the outſtanding balance, and he will ſend up the Nabob's order to the fouzdar of Hughley, for payment of that ſum.

Fort William, 8th January 1761.

Thurſday.

At a Conſultation; Preſent,
The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Peter Amyatt, Eſquire.
William Ellis, Eſquire.
William Brightwell Sumner, Eſquire.
Harry Smyth, Eſquire.
Culling Smith, Eſquire.

Mr. Amyatt's minute concerning the revolution.

Mr. Amyatt takes this opportunity to obſerve, that he is of opinion, the reaſons given for depoſing of Jaffier Aly Chan (for he can look upon it in no other light) are far from being ſufficient to convict him of breach of faith; conſequently in the eyes of the world, the whole odium of ſuch a proceeding muſt retort upon ourſelves. The cruelties of which he is accuſed, muſt to a civilized government appear ſhocking; but in deſpotic ones, there are none entirely free from inſtances of this kind, as their own fears and jealouſies are ever prompting them to ſuch unwarrantable actions; and it is well known, that the preſent Nabob has already fallen into the ſame ſeverities, as likewiſe, that he has ſhewn marks of favour to thoſe miniſters, who, we are told, "ſaw with an evil eye the influence of the Company, and readily ſnatched at any occaſion to reduce it." Meer Jaffier's being confirmed by the Court at Delhy in the ſubahſhip, was a very valuable conſideration, which ought not to have been overlooked, becauſe, whenever that diſtracted ſtate is reſtored to peace and tranquillity, he being legally in poſſeſſion of the government, would of courſe be confirmed by the reigning king, without heſitation; whereas the obtaining ſo great a favour for Coſſim Aly Khan muſt be attended with both difficulty and expence. The treaty ſubſiſting between us and Coſſim Aly Chan, plainly ſhews, that his ſole aim, at the time of entering into it, was the ſubahdarry of Bengal, otherwiſe how ridiculous was it for him to make a promiſe of ceding certain countries to the Company, which his poſt of Duan could never have given him the power of executing! The great advantages expected to accrue from theſe countries, it is feared, will prove merely imaginary, as it is now near three months ſince their revolution was effected; and yet ſo far from any appearance of extricating ourſelves from the difficulties, as expected, we are involved in freſh troubles every day, which will not appear ſtrange when we caſt our eyes upon the perſon we have raiſed to the muſnud, whoſe character was never conſpicuous in any light till lately, and whoſe treacherous behaviour to his father-in-law leaves us very little hope of his attachment to our intereſt; nor indeed can it be expected, that he will place any confidence in us, who have aſſiſted to dethrone a man we were bound to ſupport by the moſt ſolemn ties, divine and human; ſuch a breach of faith muſt neceſſarily occaſion the loſs of our influence in this country, and bereave us of that ſuperiority which our ſteady adherence to our promiſe ever gave us over theſe people. For the above reaſons Mr. Amyatt diſſents to the whole tranſaction, and further declares, That he never was conſulted nor adviſed with concerning it, nor did he know that it was even intended, till public report had informed him of its execution.

Mr. Ellis's Minute.

Mr. Ellis's ſentiments with regard to the revolution, agree entirely with Mr. Amyatt's, and he diſſents to it for the ſame reaſons.

Mr. Smyth's Minute.

Mr. Smyth is of the ſame opinion likewiſe as Mr. Amyatt, as he has once already intimated to the Board.

Letter to the Honourable the Secret Committee, dated 11th March 1762.

To the Honourable the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

Honourable Sirs,—1. It gives us the greateſt concern to be obliged to addreſs you in the manner we are now under the neceſſity of doing; but as we have publicly declared our diſſent from

from the laſt revolution in the kingdom of Bengal, and expreſſed our entire diſapprobation of the meaſures purſued conſequent thereto; it is our duty to acquaint you with our reaſons for having differed in opinion from the Gentlemen who were acceſſary to that revolution, leſt ill-minded people ſhould repreſent our oppoſition as a faction, inſtead of owing its riſe, as it really does, to our ſtrict regard to what we think conducive to the honour of our country, and the intereſts of our employers. Had the whole Board been conſulted, we dare aſſert this meaſure would have been rejected by the majority; and we humbly refer to you, whether the opinion of every member thereof ought not to have been taken by the Preſident, before he ventured upon ſo bold a ſtep as the ſubverſion of a government.

2. You were informed laſt year, of the ſurpriſing revolution in favour of Mir Mahammed Coſſim Aly Chan, which would neceſſarily be repreſented in the moſt favourable light, by the Gentlemen who promoted it. But whatever judgment you may have been led to entertain of the meaſure from their account of it, we cannot but think you will judge as ill of it as we do, when you are truly informed of the circumſtances with which it was attended, the manner in which it was executed, and the ſteps that have been ſince taken to ſupport it; of theſe we will give you as ſuccinct an account as poſſible.

3. At a time when there was not the leaſt appearance of a rupture or diſguſt between us and the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, on the contrary, a friendſhip and harmony ſubſiſted, Mir Coſſim Chan, his ſon-in-law, came down to Calcutta on ſome pretence or other to viſit Mr. Vanſittart; and having ſtaid a ſhort time, he returned to Moorſhedabad. A few days after Mir Coſſim's departure, Mr. Vanſittart went up to Moorſhedabad on the pretence of a viſit to the Nabob; Colonel Caillaud, with a party of two hundred Europeans, and ſome Sepoys, attended him, who, to remove the ſuſpicion which ſuch a force would have neceſſarily occaſioned, it was pretended were going up to Patna to reinforce the army there. When Mr. Vanſittart arrived at Moradbaug, the Nabob paid him two viſits, at the laſt of which Mr. Vanſittart, without any previous notice of his intentions, gave him the three letters mentioned in Conſultation of the 10th November 1760, of which copies have been tranſmitted you. The abruptneſs with which theſe letters were preſented him, one cloſe upon the other, and the unexpected propoſals contained in them, terrified the Nabob, and he was entirely at a loſs how to act, but deſired time to conſider on what was to be done. Mr. Vanſittart ſeeing his perplexity, ſtrongly inſiſted on his immediately naming ſome perſon from among his relations to take charge of the ſubahſhip, and very particularly recommended Coſſim Aly Chan, who was ſent for, and the Nabob was deſired to ſtay till he came; but Coſſim Aly Chan delayed ſo long, and the Nabob was in ſuch anxiety of mind, and ſo deſirous to be releaſed from the viſit, being greatly fatigued, that Mr. Vanſittart was obliged, in order to ſave appearances, to ſuffer his departure to the palace, after having detained him much longer than his inclination: that night and the day following paſſed in concerting meaſures with Coſſim Aly Chan, how to put in execution the plan before agreed on in Calcutta; a treaty having been ſigned for this purpoſe in September 1760, while Coſſim Aly Chan was down here: in conſequence of theſe deliberations, our troops clandeſtinely croſſed the river the next night, under Colonel Caillaud, and being joined by Coſſim Aly Chan and his party, ſurrounded the Nabob's palace: a letter from Mr. Vanſittart was ſent in to the Nabob, demanding his immediate compliance with what had been propoſed to him; to which the Nabob returned for anſwer, "That ſuch uſage "was what he never expected from the Engliſh; that whilſt a force was at his gates he would "enter into no terms, and that it was his deſire, our troops might be returned to Morad-"baug." A meſſage was then ſent in, informing the Nabob, that if he did not directly comply, they ſhould be obliged to ſtorm the palace. Aſtoniſhed and terrified by this menace, he opened the gates, exclaiming, "That he was betrayed; that the Engliſh were guilty of "perjury and breach of faith; that he perceived their deſigns againſt his government; that "he had friends enough to hazard at leaſt one battle in his defence; but although no oaths "were ſacred enough to bind the Engliſh, yet as he had ſworn to be their faithful friend, he "would never ſwerve from his engagement, and rather ſuffer death than draw his ſword "againſt them." So ſuſpicious was he of being ſold, that "he deſired to know what ſum "of money Coſſim Aly Chan was to give for the ſubahſhip, and he would give half as "as much more to be continued. He hoped however, if they intended to dethrone him, "they would not leave him to the mercy of his ſon-in-law, from whom he feared the worſt, "but rather wiſhed they would carry him from the city, and give him a place of ſafety in "Calcutta." This laſt requeſt of the Nabob's, the effect of his fear and deſpair, was immediately laid hold of, and conſtrued in the light of a voluntary reſignation. Accordingly our troops took poſſeſſion of the palace, Mir Coſſim Chan was raiſed to the muſnud, and the old Nabob was hurried into a boat, with a few of his women and neceſſaries, and ſent away to Calcutta in a manner wholly unworthy of the high rank he had ſo lately held, as is alſo the ſcanty ſubſiſtence allowed him here by his ſucceſſor.

4. Thus was Jaffier Aly Chan depoſed, in breach of a treaty founded upon the moſt ſolemn oaths, and in violation of the national faith; a prince of whoſe friendſhip and attachment you have had many ſignal proofs, in whoſe cauſe our arms have with much honour been employed, and by a firm adherence to whom the Engliſh had acquired, throughout the whole country, ſo univerſal a character of fidelity and conſtancy, that the moſt perfect confidence was placed by the natives in them.

5. The advantages to be reaped by the Company from the revolution were the grant of the

zemydaries

zemydaries of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong, the payment of the balance due from Nabob Jaffier Aly Chan, with a preſent of five laack of rupees from Coſſim Aly Chan, towards defraying the expences of the war againſt the French on the coaſt of Choromandel; of theſe Mr. Vanſittart, on his return to Calcutta, acquainted the Board, and at the ſame time, in juſtification of his proceedings, laid before them a memorial; copies whereof were tranſmitted to you by the ſhips of the laſt ſeaſon.

6. This memorial is introduced with a liſt of crimes laid to Jaffier Aly Chan's charge, which to thoſe unacquainted with the caſtern governments will appear deſerving of the higheſt reſentment from a civilized nation; yet ſuch is the ſtate of politics in every Aſiatic court, that through the apprehenſions of the ſovereign, and the intrigues and artifices of the great men about him, inſtances of cruelty and oppreſſion are but too frequent; and even the moſt beloved among them are too much to be taxed with committing, or at leaſt conniving at, acts of violence; but it ſhould be conſidered that many of theſe are done by perſons in power without their knowledge, and that as there are no regular puniſhments for criminals of ſtation, and who may be ſo powerful that it would be dangerous proceeding openly againſt them, recourſe is often had to the dagger or poiſon to puniſh the guilty. This was the caſe in moſt of the inſtances alledged againſt Jaffier Aly Chan, none of which ſhew greater proofs of cruelty than that which Coſſim Aly Chan diſcovered; when being in poſſeſſion of the palace, he was deſirous of making the firſt act of his power the aſſaſſination of Jaffier Aly Chan therein, and was very much diſpleaſed when he found we intended to give him protection at Calcutta. Since his acceſſion to the ſubadarree, we could produce to you numberleſs inſtances of his extortions and cruelties, but that it would run us into an exorbitant length; and he ſeems to have made the more immediate objects of his ill uſage, thoſe who had been the moſt avowed friends of the Engliſh. We ſhall only particularize Ramnarain, whom he diſpoſſeſſed of the naibſhip of Patna, in which it was always thought found policy in us to ſupport him, on account of his approved faith; and he now keeps him in irons till he has been fleeced to the utmoſt, when there is no doubt he will be diſpatched; moſt, if not all thoſe, who eſpouſed the Engliſh intereſt, have been laid under the heavieſt contributions, and many have died under the force of the torture to exact money from them; others have been either baſely murthered, or (which is a common practice amongſt Gentoos) unable to ſurvive the loſs of honour, have made away with themſelves.

7. It is inſinuated in the memorial, that the Nabob's avarice and cruelty had made him the deteſtation of all good men, and that he was in the hands of bad miniſters, under whoſe mal-adminiſtration the country was greatly oppreſſed; as an inſtance whereof, the ſcarcity of grain at the city is produced. To theſe miniſters are aſcribed the great difficulties the Nabob laboured under for want of money to anſwer the expences of the Government, and to pay the army, rendered mutinous for want of their arrears; beſides which inteſtine danger, the provinces were threatened an invaſion by the Shahzadah with a powerful army, and ſeveral of the rajahs and zemyndars were on the point of revolting: to encounter all which there was nothing but a diſaffected army. Mr. Vanſittart appeals to every by-ſtander for the truth of theſe facts, and of the imminent peril to which the country was expoſed; he declares his intentions were only to remove the bad miniſters; for which purpoſe he carried up with him the party of Europeans and Sepoys: he proceeds to ſet forth the manner in which the old Nabob was removed from the government, and Coſſim Aly Chan raiſed. He ſays, people in general were pleaſed with the revolution, and makes a merit of its being effected without the leaſt diſturbance in the city, or a drop of blood ſpilt. He concludes, with repreſenting the anxiety the Nabob expreſſed to get from the city through fear of Coſſim Aly Chan; and obſerves, that he appeared pretty eaſy and reconciled to the loſs of his power, which he owned to be rather a burthen than a pleaſure, and too much for his abilities to manage ſince the death of his ſon; and that the enjoyment of the reſt of his days in ſecurity, under the Engliſh protection, ſeemed to be the chief object of his wiſhes.

8. It is very natural for any perſon who takes an uncommon ſtep, to endeavour to vindicate himſelf by the moſt ſpecious arguments and the moſt plauſible reaſoning he can deviſe, and nothing leſs could be expected from Mr. Vanſittart, after having brought about ſo unprecedented a revolution. He has told his ſtory with all the aggravations the nature of it would admit; notwithſtanding which, we do not imagine the reaſons he has given in ſupport of ſo violent a meaſure, will prove ſatisfactory to the world. He takes great pains to blacken Mir Jaffier's character, in order to prejudice mens minds againſt him, and lays great ſtreſs upon the ſcarcity of grain in the city; but we apprehend Mr. Vanſittart does not judge ſo harſhly from that circumſtance, after what he has himſelf experienced laſt year; for, notwithſtanding all the care we are not to doubt he has taken, grain was never known ſo ſcarce in Calcutta before, inſomuch that numbers daily periſhed.

9. Want of money was the great difficulty the Nabob laboured under; but this did not proceed from any fault of his, but from the diſtracted ſtate in which the country had been ever ſince Colonel Clive's departure, ſo that a very ſmall part of the revenues came into his treaſury; the Burdwan and Nuddea countries were aſſigned over to the Company for the payment of the Nabob's debt; Midnapoor, the frontier to the ſouth-weſt, was over-run by the Morattas, Beerboon, and other zamyndarries, with the province of Purnea, under Kuddum Huſſien Chan, were affected towards the Shahzadah, who had under contribution the whole province of Bahar, except the city of Patna, and a ſmall diſtrict around it. Chittagong,

gong, the eaſtern barrier, did little more than defend itſelf againſt the incurſions of the Muggs, inhabitants of Arracan, who uſed every year to come into Bengal for plunder. There remained only the Dacca province; the diſtricts round Morſhedabad; the Radhy and Dinagepoor countries, to ſupply the immenſe expence of the war; and here lay the Nabob's diſtreſs, that with one fourth part, if ſo much, of the accuſtomed revenues, he was obliged to maintain an army greater than any Nabob did before him, and the Engliſh army was not the leaſt conſiderable part of the burthen; for truſting moſt to them, he paid them firſt, which preference was the cauſe of diſcontent to the country troops: and though the force we had in the field againſt an enemy whom Colonel Clive had but a very ſhort time before drove out of the country, far exceeded thoſe the Colonel had with him, yet no material advantage was gained over them, but the country was over-run, and ravaged by them; and by frequent marches and countermarches, our own armies became as deſtructive as thoſe of the invaders. No wonder then at the perilous condition, to which Mir Jaffier was reduced, to extricate him from which it behoved us to exert our utmoſt abilities; inſtead whereof he was treated with the greateſt indignity by us, and baſely turned out of his government.

10. To remove bad counſellors from a prince is certainly meritorious, but it does not ſeem to us that any thing was ever deſigned againſt the Nabob's miniſters; on the contrary, that the ſole intention was to diſplace the Nabob himſelf, is pretty evident, by the treaty before mentioned made in Calcutta. Had there been the leaſt attempt to convince him in a friendly manner of any errors in his adminiſtration, or of the neceſſity of diſmiſſing from his preſence thoſe who ill-adviſed him, it is not to be doubted he would have hearkened to reaſon: that he was not obſtinate againſt good advice, may be concluded from the extraordinary influence which Colonel Clive had over him; in proof whereof we need only call to mind how violently he was incenſed againſt Rajah Ramnarain, and Roydulub; yet the Colonel, by gentle methods, without having recourſe to any other force than that of perſuaſion, perfectly reconciled him to the former, and obtained his permiſſion for the latter to reſide at Calcutta, and bring thither with him his family and effects.

11. The people in general, very far from being pleaſed with the revolution (as alledged in the memorial) were extremely diſſatisfied thereat. Had Coſſim Aly Chan been before in eſteem among them, or poſſeſſed any ſhare of influence or power, they might perhaps have overlooked the circumſtance of his riſe, and a ſeries of popular actions might in time have reconciled them to the uſurpation; but he was deſpiſed and diſliked before he came to the muſnud, and his behaviour ſince, has been ſo oppreſſive and tyrannical, that it could not fail confirming the public hatred of him.

12. The little diſturbance at Morſhedabad upon the occaſion proceeded from the apprehenſions all degrees of people were under from ſo large a force being brought into the city in the dead of night; and Mir Jaffier, no way ſuſpicious of the faith of the Engliſh, had taken no precautions for his own ſecurity: ſuch is the ſuperiority of our arms, and ſo great the dread of our forces in this country, that had we gone openly to work, we ſhould have met with little or no difficulty, which renders our having proceeded by ſtealth and treachery, the more inexcuſable; and we are truly ſorry to have occaſion to obſerve, that the means by which this meaſure was brought about, have thrown an indelible ſtain upon our national character, and injured us as much in the opinion of the natives, as it has of all the European colonies in this part of the world.

13. It is aſſerted in the memorial, that Mir Jaffier was eaſy under the loſs of his power, which he is ſaid to have owned to have been rather a burthen to him; but it is evident, on the contrary, from his declarations ſince, and his letters to the Company and Colonel Clive, that he was very unwilling to part with his government, and that he greatly regrets the deprivation of it. He was neceſſitated indeed to ſubmit; and in hopes of being redreſſed ſome time or other by the Company, judging that ſuch a ſtep could never be approved of at home, he very wiſely choſe, rather than truſt himſelf with his ſon-in-law, to wait patiently for that redreſs in ſafety at Calcutta: ſo far he might appear reſigned to his fate; yet this can never be conſtrued as an abdication of his government, though it has been induſtriouſly endeavoured to make the world look upon it in that light.

14. We have now, Honourable Sirs, laid before you a true account of the revolution. The projectors perhaps thought the advantages it was to bring the Company would be a ſufficient atonement for the meaſure, and inſure them the approbation of their maſters. It is true the Company have a conſiderable addition of territory, and do now receive a large yearly revenue; but as great, if not greater, advantages might have been procured by more honourable means; and the preſent tranquil ſtate of the country, which ſecures to the Company, as well as the Nabob, the full enjoyment of their revenues, is not the effect of Mir Coſſim Chan's nabobſhip, but of an event which would equally have happened had Jaffier Aly Chan been continued on the muſnud, as can be eaſily made to appear.

15. Soon after Coſſim Aly Chan was fixed in the nabobſhip, the Company were nominally inveſted with the zemyndaries of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong, and only nominally, for our firſt demands upon the two former of theſe, for the payment of the revenues, were refuſed.

16. So bad an impreſſion of us did the revolution create in the minds of the country people, that the Burdwan rajah, who, in Jaffier Aly Chan's time, had often expreſſed his earneſt deſire that the Company might continue to collect the revenues of his diſtrict, as they had

all along done on account of the tunckaws, and that they would procure the zemyndarrie for themſelves from the Nabob; yet after the breach of our faith to the old Nabob, concluding no reliance was to be placed on our engagements, he immediately flew off from his former declarations, and inſtead of acquieſcing under our government, he began to act in open rebellion; he ſtopped our trade, raiſed a large force, invited the Morattas into his country, withheld the payment of his revenues, and acting in conjunction with the Beerbon rajah, he eſpouſed the cauſe of the Shahzadah, with whom he entered into correſpondence.

17. Several other zamyndars, who had remained quiet whilſt Jaffier Aly Chan was Nabob, now finding the government overſet, thought themſelves at liberty to withdraw their allegiance, and would not acknowledge Mir Coſſim, but joined the Shahzadah, whoſe party by theſe frequent defections was ſtrengthened with ſupplies, both of troops and money, and whoſe followers were greatly encouraged by his having been able to maintain his ground, and continue in our dominions, the whole preceding campaign, in defiance of the Engliſh army.

18. The Nabob's troops were rendered quite mutinous by the news of the revolution; they declared they knew nothing of Coſſim Aly Chan, and that now they had loſt their old maſter, they were without hopes of being paid any part of the immenſe arrears due to them, and nothing leſs than the extraordinary aſſiduity and influence of Mr. Amyatt, who was then chief at Patna, could have prevented them from proceeding to extremities.

19. In this ſituation were things when Colonel Caillaud left Patna, and Major Carnac received the command of the army from him: the Major ſaw it was impoſſible for the country to ſupport itſelf againſt ſuch a combination of difficulties, and that if a deciſive blow was not ſoon ſtruck, the Shah could not fail to have immediate poſſeſſion of all: he therefore determined to bring the Prince to an action as ſpeedily as poſſible; and after ſecuring Patna by a garriſon, to prevent its being plundered by that rabble of troops whoſe duty it was to defend it, he puſhed on with the Engliſh army as faſt as he could toward the Prince. He came up with him three days march from the city, the conſequence of which brought on an action, wherein he gained a complete victory, and reduced the Shah in a few days after to the neceſſity of putting himſelf under the protection of the Engliſh. The Major's ſucceſs, as it put an end to the hopes of all the rebellious rajahs and zamyndars, ſo it at once quelled all commotions, and eſtabliſhed the ſo long wiſhed for tranquillity in the country; and the different provinces were now brought into order, and rendered in a condition to pay their reſpective revenues; the Nabob's treaſury was enriched, and he was enabled to diſcharge the arrears of his army, and to advance the money he had engaged to pay the Company.

20. Whatever merit there is then in the preſent tranquillity, is to be aſcribed to our ſucceſs againſt the Prince, which, by putting an end to the war in the country, reduced it to a ſtate of perfect obedience; and as all the old Nabob's difficulties proceeded from his dominions being the ſeat of war, and the default of his revenues, on that account there is not the leaſt doubt, had our arms met with the ſame ſucceſs during his government, but that he would have extricated himſelf with equal eaſe.

21. After what has been ſet forth, we believe few will imagine that Mir Jaffier was depoſed by reaſon either of a want of ability to rule, or of his bad principles. We would willingly indeed ſuppoſe that it proceeded rather from the want of a true knowledge of the country policy, and from an error of judgement, than from lucrative views, had not Mr. Vanſittart, and others of the projectors, made no ſecret that there was a preſent promiſed them by Coſſim Aly Chan, of twenty laack: 'tis true they make a merit that this was not to be delivered till the Company's debt was paid, and his army ſatisfied. We have to obſerve on this occaſion, that ſeveral of us have had offers from the Nabob of very conſiderable ſums to join in his meaſures, which we have conſtantly made public, as well as refuſed; and if we, who have always oppoſed thoſe meaſures, have been thus tried with pecuniary temptations, what may be concluded of thoſe gentlemen, who have ſupported the Nabob on every occaſion?

22. If the Nabob had purchaſed the power he is inveſted with, it is to be expected he will of courſe make the moſt of it, by extorting money from his ſubjects, and oppreſſing every province as much as he can; and as the fate of Jaffier Aly Chan muſt have convinced him how little we regard the moſt ſacred engagements, he will of neceſſity endeavour to eſtabliſh himſelf on a foundation leſs precarious than the friendſhip of the Engliſh. That he already begins to do ſo is evident from his ſtill increaſing the number of his troops (notwithſtanding the preſent tranquillity) and to render them the more formidable, he is arming and diſciplining as many ſepoys as he can procure in the European manner; and to ſecure himſelf as much as poſſible from us, eſteeming his capital, Morſhedabad, (the ſcene of his predeceſſor's fall) too near our ſettlements, he is about erecting a large fort at Rajahmaul, which he propoſes to make his place of reſidence, where he hopes to be out of our reach.

23. When any member of the Board ſuggeſts that the Nabob's behaviour argues a ſuſpicion of us, for that if he really confided in, and ſincerely regarded us, he would not put himſelf to the unneceſſary expence of keeping ſo large an army in pay, nor treat ſo ill thoſe who are avowedly our friends; it is replied, "The Nabob is maſter of his country, and "being independent of us, is at liberty to rule and act as he pleaſes." But ſurely Coſſim Aly Chan cannot be more ſo than his predeceſſor was; and if it be true that the Nabob of Bengal is independent of the Engliſh, and maſter of his own actions, how can the Gentlemen juſtify their proceedings againſt Mir Jaffier, whom they called to ſo ſevere an account for the adminiſtration

adminiſtration of his own government as to depoſe him, though he had not been guilty of any offence to our nation, nor ever deviated from his treaty?

24. Inſtead of checking the overgrowing power of the preſent Nabob, it is daily promoted; and he has even the abſolute command of our army at Patna; the chief there having directions to let him have what number of our troops he pleaſes to demand, without being allowed to judge of the nature of the ſervice for which they are demanded. This you will obſerve, Honourable Sirs, in the inſtructions given to Mr. Ellis, dated the 22d September laſt, and in the conſultation of the ſame day, where ſome of our opinions on that procedure are entered.—We cannot help expreſſing how much we fear, that an ill uſe will be made, by him, of this power over our forces, and that they will, ſooner or later, be employed for ſuch purpoſes, as will render us more odious to the whole country, bring greater diſcredit upon our arms, and reflect farther diſhonour upon our nation.

25. Notwithſtanding this zealous attachment to Coſſim Aly Chan, there can be no reaſon to hope he will act the part of a faithful ally towards us: what dependance can be had on a perſon who ſo readily entered into the ſcheme of depoſing, not only his lawful maſter, but his patron, under whoſe immediate care he was brought up; who ſhewed ſo much diſloyalty to his natural ſovereign, the King of Hindoſtan, as to evade even acknowledging him, till he was in a manner obliged to it by our repeated deſires, and who betrays a continual diſtruſt of thoſe who have appeared any way attached to us?

26. The Nabob's undutiful behaviour to the King, proceeded in great meaſure from his jealouſy of the regard we profeſſed for him, and his fears that we ſhould reduce his authority, by ſubjecting the ſubahſhip to its primitive dependency on the Mogul, and obliging him to pay the royal revenues: he therefore ſet every engine to work to create a rupture between us; he endeavoured to make the King uneaſy, and to inſtill notions into him, of his being in danger from us, in order to get him out of the country; he excited a mutiny in the King's camp, which, had it not been for the timely aſſiſtance ſent by Major Carnac, might have proved fatal to his Majeſty; he repeatedly urged Mr. Vanſittart to diſmiſs him, and forged letters to himſelf and the Preſident, as from the King, complaining of being forcibly detained by the Major, and expreſſing his anxiety in not being allowed to leave the country: that theſe letters were forged, his Majeſty hath ſolemnly declared by an atteſtation under his own hand, and teſtified his abhorrence of ſo infamous a proceeding. The Nabob however at laſt ſo far prevailed, by corruption, and intriguing with ſome of the courtiers, as to bring about what he had ſo much at heart; the King's being ſent away without receiving any aſſiſtance from us, or being paid any part of the revenues of this ſubahſhip. This rebellious behaviour of the Nabob juſtly incenſed the King, who declared that he would not ſuffer him to continue in his ſubahſhip, whenever he had power ſufficient to prevent it.

27. His Majeſty, before his departure, gave the moſt unqueſtionable proof of his hatred to Coſſim Aly Chan, and of his eſteem for the Engliſh, by the voluntary offer he made them of the dewanny of Bengal. This poſt is the collection of the revenues of all the provinces ſubject to the Nabob, which are to be accounted for with the court of Delhy. It differs from the ſubadarree; the latter being the command of the troops, and the charge of the juriſdiction in the provinces; the expences whereof are paid out of the revenues by the dewan. It was formerly a ſeparate office, but the Nabobs of Bengal, taking advantage of the late commotions in the empire, have aſſumed it to themſelves: from the nature of the office it is evident that the King, diſtruſting the Nabob, intended that we ſhould be a check upon him, and be anſwerable for the revenues, no account of which he could get from Coſſim Aly Chan, who detained them for his own uſe. This appointment would have brought the Company about fifteen laacks yearly, excluſive of the lands of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong, which his Majeſty alſo offered to confirm to them, and to eſtabliſh their intereſt and influence, not only in theſe provinces, but as far as the city of Delhy itſelf; to which place our commerce might then, with the utmoſt ſafety, have been extended.

28. It is hard to conceive, why ſo honourable and advantageous an offer ſhould be rejected: it is alledged, it would be the ſource of continual diſputes between us and the Nabob, and occaſion too great a diminution of his power; but ſurely this conſideration, admitting it to be true, ought not to ſtand in competition with the honour and intereſts of the Company, which would be greatly promoted by ſuch an appointment: what renders this refuſal the more extraordinary, is, that it is well known, application was made to the king, ſoon after Mr. Vanſittart's arrival, in Jaffier Aly Chan's time, for the ſunads or grants of the province of Bengal, which were actually drawn out to be ſent to us; but the revolution, in favour of Coſſim Aly Chan, taking place in the interim, an entire ſtop was put to the negociation.

29. The Nabob was ſo inveterate againſt all thoſe natives, who were known to be in our intereſt, that he uſed his utmoſt endeavours to prevail on Colonel Coote and Major Carnac, to conſent to his proceeding to the moſt unjuſtifiable ſeverities againſt them, particularly againſt Rajah Ramnarain; having offered the Colonel five laack of rupees, provided he would concur in the deſtruction of that unhappy man, who has ſince been given up to him by the Board; the Colonel's refuſal of this money, we are well convinced, was the motive of his (the Nabob's) unjuſt ſuſpicion or reſentment againſt him, which appears not only by the Colonel's letters, on the face of the proceedings of the Board, but alſo by Coſſim Aly Chan's own declaration to him, that he could not be his friend unleſs he received his preſent.

30. The ſame ſpirit of reſentment which actuated the Nabob againſt Colonel Coote, was equally

equally ſtrong againſt Major Carnac, whom he alſo endeavoured to buy over, to ſerve his ends, but in vain. The Nabob ſaw, with a jealous eye, the many diſtinguiſhing marks of favour the King conferred on him, and would fain have made a breach between them; which not being able to effect, he wrote ſeveral letters of complaint againſt him to the Preſident, who, from prejudice, was too much inclined to believe them, and ſought all opportunities of blaming his conduct at the board, and of putting the worſt conſtruction upon all his endeavours for the public ſervice, of which many inſtances could be produced.

31. A flagrant injuſtice was done Major Carnac, in calling him away from Patna, when the detachment ſtill left there was large enough to render it a command adequate to his rank, and where he might have been of ſervice; whereas his preſence was unneceſſary at Calcutta, as the Colonel was going down.

32. A very ſignal inſult, offered by Coſſim Aly Chan to the Engliſh nation, was the intercepting, by his order, a letter which Major Carnac, when commanding the army, had wrote to the King, which the Nabob opened, and ſent to the Preſident. This letter, with others from the Nabob, was minuted in conſultation of the 5th Auguſt, and it was inſinuated to contain proof of a plot concerted between the Colonel, Major Ramnarain, and Shitabray, to create a freſh revolution. Much pains were taken to find out myſterious meanings in the letter, and hints were thrown out to prepoſſeſs the Board, that ſuch a combination was actually on foot; however, after the cloſeſt ſcrutiny into the letter, and the ſtricteſt examination of Shitabray, who was called down from Patna for that purpoſe, the Board gave it unanimouſly as their opinion, that there were not the leaſt grounds to ſuppoſe any ſuch combination; the ridicule whereof was ſo conſpicuous, that we do not imagine even thoſe, who ſo ſeriouſly promoted the inquiry, could ever have believed it.

33. The material part of this letter related to an application which the Major (by Colonel Coote's directions) made to the King, to be put in poſſeſſion of ſome fort in Shujah Dowla's country, upon the Ganges; which, had our troops attended his majeſty, as we muſt have marched through Shujah Dowla's territories, would have been abſolutely neceſſary for a place of arms, and to keep up our communication: the ſtopping ſuch a letter, or indeed any one, from a perſon in ſo public a character as the Major then was, might be of the moſt fatal conſequence, was alſo a public affront, and one that never was before offered by any Nabob; yet no ſatisfaction has ever been obtained from him, although wrote to ſo publicly on that head.

34. You will now, Honourable Sirs, be able to compare the preſent with the preceding government; ſo momentous a ſtep, as ſubverting the former one, we conceive, ought not to have been undertaken till after the moſt mature deliberation, and from a thorough knowledge of the country, its connections, and intereſts; but this was far from being the caſe; Mr. Vanſittart had only been three months in Bengal, and in ſo ſhort a ſpace of time, can hardly be ſuppoſed to have acquired ſo perfect a knowledge of matters as to be able to determine, that it was abſolutely neceſſary to annul a treaty, which had been ratified in the moſt ſolemn manner by Admiral Watſon and Colonel Clive, together with a regularly authoriſed Select Committee, guaranteed by the credit of the Company, and the honour of the nation.

35. The Gentlemen who were the promoters of this revolution, have coincided remarkably in each others opinion during the laſt year's conſultations; in return, the Preſident has not failed to ſhew them partiality, of which we will give you a remarkable inſtance: notwithſtanding in your letter to this Preſidency, dated 21ſt January 1761, you were pleaſed, in the moſt poſitive terms, to order the diſmiſſion of Meſſrs. Sumner, Playdell, and Mac Gwire, yet on the 10th Auguſt, when, in conſequence of Mac Gwire's diſmiſſion, Mr. Ellis was appointed chief at Patna, Mr. Vanſittart propoſed in council, that Mr. Mac Gwire ſhould remain in the chiefſhip till Mr. Ellis's arrival, which could not be effected in leſs than two months; the queſtion was abſolutely put to the Board, but carried in the negative, the other Gentlemen not chuſing to be guilty of ſo glaring a deviation from their maſters orders; and at Mr. Vanſittart's deſire, this propoſal of his own was not entered on the face of that conſultation. Here it will be neceſſary alſo to obſerve, that Mr. Holwell, after the Honourable Company had ſhewn him ſo plain a mark of their diſpleaſure, as to remove him from the Chair to ſeventh in Council, at firſt wavered whether to continue in the ſervice or not, till (as he declared) he had a private conference with Mr. Vanſittart, after which he remained in both Council and Select Committee, till the very day on which Mr. Vanſittart took leave of the Board to proceed to Morſhedabad, in order to execute the plan which had been formed; and then Mr. Holwell reſigned.

36. The Armenian miniſters of the revolution, Cojah Petruce, and Cojah Gregory, are in the higheſt degree of favour with the Nabob and his adherents; the former reſides in Calcutta, retained by Coſſim Aly Chan, a known ſpy upon every tranſaction of the Engliſh; of which he never fails to give his maſter the moſt regular intelligence, as was too apparent to both Colonel Coote and Major Carnac, when they were at Patna. The latter of theſe Armenians has poſts of the greateſt truſt near the Nabob's perſon; and through the means of theſe men, the Armenians in general are ſetting up an independent footing in the country, are carrying on a trade greatly detrimental to our inveſtments in all parts, and commit daily acts of violence, which reflect no ſmall odium on the Engliſh, who are ſuppoſed to encourage their proceedings.

37. It is this ſyſtem of adminiſtration, which we have conſtantly oppoſed, as thinking your

your affairs could not poſſibly proſper under it ; and you will now be able to account for the many differences at the Board, which will appear through the courſe of our conſultations, and which will doubtleſs ſurprize you till the real cauſe is known ; as we have hitherto denied our aſſents to meaſures, becauſe we deemed them contrary to your intereſts, though the adopting them would have turned out greatly to our private emoluments, ſo you may reſt aſſured it ſhall ever continue an invariable maxim with us to make your honour and advantage the ſole object of our attention.

38. You have been acquainted, Honourable Sirs, that the King has applied for our aſſiſtance to ſettle him on the throne, and to recover ſuch parts of his territories as are ſtill in the hands of rebels. It is our opinion that we have troops enough to form an army for the enterprize ; and as we have no European enemy to fear, the forces requiſite for this ſervice can, without danger, be ſpared. The Nabob's large army, which is now a burthen upon the provinces, and only kept up to ſcreen him from the King's power, and through his jealouſy of us, would afford a conſiderable addition, and at the ſame time eaſe the country of an immenſe expence ; Shujah Dowlah, one of the moſt powerful men of the empire, would join with his forces, beſides many other conſiderable powers, friends to the King, from different parts, would flock to the royal ſtandard, ſhould we ever take the field ; and our army, moſt probably (as the King himſelf has frequently declared) would march to the gates of Delhy, without oppoſition ; we moſt humbly ſubmit to you, whether ſo glorious an opportunity of aggrandizing the Company in Hindoſtan, ſhould not be embraced, and leave it to yourſelves to judge the reputation and advantages which would reſult to them, if, through the means of the Britiſh arms, his Majeſty ſhould be eſtabliſhed on his throne : for want of our aid he is now actually at a ſtand, and unable to proſecute his journey to his capital.

39. But ſhould you be unwilling to extend your connections further up the country, and, inſtead of accepting the dewanny of Bengal, chuſe to confine your views to your new acquiſitions, and to the trade of Bengal alone, we beg leave to offer it as our opinion, that we ought to maintain an intereſt in the country, independent of the Nabob, by ſupporting in power ſuch men as have proved themſelves our friends ; this will ſerve as a balance againſt him, ſhould he entertain ill deſigns againſt us.

40. We have now given you a fair relation of things ; and, conſcious of the goodneſs of our intentions, we cannot but flatter ourſelves we ſhall meet with your approbation, in the part we have taken ; we ſhall therefore conclude with the aſſurance that our endeavours ſhall never be wanting to promote the honour and intereſts of our employers, their ſucceſs being the object of our moſt fervent wiſhes.

We are, with the greateſt reſpect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your moſt faithful and dutiful Servants,

Fort William,
11th March 1762.

EYRE COOTE,
P. AMYATT,
JOHN CARNAC,
W. ELLIS,
S. BATSON,
H. VERELST.

APPENDIX, No. 13.

Fort William, the 21ſt of April 1761.

Extract of a Letter from Major John Carnac, dated Camp at Bockypoor 13th of April 1761, to the Select Committee.

" I Have long had reaſon to ſuſpect the Nabob had ill deſigns againſt Ramnarrain, and have
" now found my ſuſpicions to be too true. His Excellency made a heavy complaint to me
" yeſterday in the preſence of Mr. M'Gwire, Major Yorke, Meſſrs. Luſhington and Swin-
" ton, that there was a conſiderable balance due on the revenues of this province. Ramnar-
" rain has declared to me, that he was very ready to lay the accounts before him ; however,
" as the two parties differ widely in their ſtatement, Mr. M'Gwire and I propoſed, that
" they ſhould each make out their accounts, and refer them to your Board, who would
" fairly decide between them. This, which I thought was a reaſonable propoſal, was ſo
" far from being ſatisfactory to the Nabob, that he plainly declared, nothing leſs could ſa-
" tisfy him than the mahrajes being removed from the naibut of this province before he
" returned to Morſhedabad : you are all, I believe, acquainted, Gentlemen, that Colonel
" Clive engaged to Ramnarrain, on the part of the Engliſh, that he ſhould be continued
" Subah Naib of this province, as long as he choſe to be ſo ; and the Colonel conſtantly op-
" poſed every attempt of Meer Jaffier or the Chuta Nabob to remove him ; this engagement
" ſhould ſurely hold equally good againſt Coſſim Aly Cawn, as being prior to any you have
" concluded with him. Thus far juſtice pleads in behalf of Ramnarrain ; and it is certainly
" good policy to ſupport the weight and influence of a perſon known to be ſo attached to the
" Engliſh intereſt, in order to counterbalance the Nabob, who, as far as I can judge, makes
" a point to take all power from out of the hands of thoſe, whom he finds to favour, or be fa-

" voured by the Engliſh ; of this I have ſeen more inſtances than one, and he is now giving " a freſh proof of it, in the caſe of the Roy Shitubray, whom he is about to diſpoſſeſs of his " jaghuires, though he deſerves particular conſideration, both from he Nabob and us, on " account of the zeal and aſſiduity with which he ſerved both in the tranſactions with the " Shahzadah.

" I am directed, Gentlemen, by your letter, under date the 9th of February, to " protect Ramnarrain againſt all violence and injuſtice that may be offered againſt his perſon, " honour, or fortune. If you do not mean to include in theſe the continuance of the " ſubahdarree to him, it will be impoſſible for me to comply with your directions; and the " moment that all power is taken from himſelf, he will be reduced to the neceſſity of ſeeking " an aſylum elſewhere, from the oppreſſion of the Nabob."

Inſtructions to Colonel Coote, Commander in Chief of the Forces in Bengal.

" Sir,

" The preſent tranquillity of theſe provinces, and the valuable territories the Company " are poſſeſſed of, render the ſecuring that tranquillity, and the confirmation of thoſe " advantages, the moſt worthy objects of our attention.

" The connection betwixt our nation and the Shahzadah, the eldeſt ſon of the laſt " Mogul, may afford the moſt effectual means of anſwering thoſe purpoſes, if circumſtances " ſhould turn out ſo, as to put it in our power to aſſiſt him in proſecuting his title to the " throne of his father.—There have been ſo many revolutions of late in the affairs of Delhy, " that it is hardly poſſible for us to deſcribe to you how the ſeveral chiefs may ſtand affected; " but as far as we have been able to obſerve, the chiefs who have ſhewn the moſt conſtant " attachment to the cauſe of the Shazadah, are, Sujah Dowlah, the Nabob of Oude, and " Nazeba Dowlah, the chief of the Rohillas.—The territories of the former extending " from the Caramnaſſar, very far towards Delhy, it is his alliance that would be moſt parti- " cularly uſeful in promoting the ſucceſs of an expedition to that capital; nor ſhould we " think it raſh, if the Shahzadah ſhould deſire our aſſiſtance, to declare openly in his favour, " whenever Sujah Dowla ſhould have agreed to the plan, and given aſſurances of his readi- " neſs to act in conjunction with us.

" By the lateſt advices from Delhi, we are informed Abdallah was on his return to his " own country; and that a very large force of Morattoes was on its march towards Delhy, " with intentions, after executing their purpoſes there, to attack Sujah Dowlah's country.— " Theſe advices, if true, ſhould, we imagine, have the effect of making the Shahzadah the " more ſeriouſly inclined to aſk our aſſiſtance, and Sujah Dowlah wiſh to ſtrengthen himſelf " by ſuch an alliance.—It is true you would have a troubleſome enemy to deal with in ſo " large a body of Morattoes; but we ſhould little doubt of your beating them, if they would " venture to come to an action; and at the ſame time ſuch meaſures might be taken by the " other Preſidencies, as to oblige them to return to the Deccan; ſuch meaſures we ſhall " ſtrongly recommend to the Gentlemen at Madraſs and Bombay, if this enterprize ſhould " be carried into execution. Letters are diſpatched to Sujah Dowla, propoſing this alliance " to him; and by the time his anſwers arrive, we may hope alſo to ſee your regiment, with- " out which reinforcement we are not able to ſpare troops enough for ſo diſtant an expedi- " tion: another neceſſary conſideration, is a ſufficient advance of money for the expences of " the army on the march; ten lacks at leaſt will be neceſſary to ſet out with; and as it is " a principle with us, that the Company ſhall bear no part of the burthen, this ſum muſt be " furniſhed by the Nabob, out of the revenues of Bahar and Bengal; but whether he has " the means of doing this, beſides diſcharging his balance to the Company, paying off the " arrears due to the troops of the late Nabob, and the current expences of the Government, " ſeems to us very doubtful.—We recommend to you, Sir, rather to conſult with him on " the means of raiſing ſuch a ſum, than peremptorily to demand it; nor do we in the leaſt " doubt but, on your repreſenting to him the ſecurity and advantage which will accrue to his " government from the intended expedition, he will exert himſelf to comply to the utmoſt " of his power with whatever you ſhall think neceſſary. Such aſſiſtance as he may be in " need of to collect the balance due to the circar, we deſire you will be pleaſed to yield him.

" We are adviſed by Major Carnac, that there is a difference between the Nabob and " Ramnarrain, relative to the accounts of the Patna province: we hope this may be amica- " bly and reaſonably adjuſted; and requeſt you will give your aſſiſtance towards it as much " as poſſible: as Ramnarrain has been remarkably ſteady in his alliance with the Company, " and received from Colonel Clive particular aſſurances of protection, with reſpect to his " perſon, fortune, and government, we recommend to you to ſecure him againſt all attempts " of oppreſſion or injuſtice: and further, that the government of Patna be preſerved to him, " if it be his inclination to continue it. It is needleſs for us to add, that it will be far more " agreeable to all parties if that can be done, by repreſenting to the Nabob the obligations we " are under to Ramnarrain, and preventing by that means the neceſſity of any forcible " meaſures.

" The Shahzadah has often been preſſing to have ſiccas ſtruck, and the coobah to be read " in his name; but we have hitherto declined, on account of the uncertainty of the expedi- " tion's taking place; but whenever it may appear to you, that the giving him theſe marks " of royalty will be the means of ſtrengthening our alliance, and bringing other chiefs to " join us, we leave it to your diſcretion to act accordingly.

" Many

" Many other circumſtances may occur, which may require your determination before you " can communicate them to us, which we, with the greateſt pleaſure and confidence, leave " to your diſcretion, aſſuring you of our moſt hearty wiſhes for your ſucceſs in all your " undertakings, being with perfect eſteem, &c."

Fort William, 28th September 1761.

Monday. At a Conſultation; Preſent,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Culling Smith, Eſquire.
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire.

The Board being fully ſatisfied of the Colonel's Conduct, wrote to him the following letter.

To Colonel Eyre Coote.

Sir, We have the honour to tranſmit to you, incloſed, a copy of the enquiries made from Shitabroy and his anſwers, with reſpect to the meaning of the obſcure expreſſions in thoſe letters of his, which the Nabob intercepted; the buſineſs which he mentions with ſo much myſterious caution, he explains to be the obtaining for the Company, a ſunnod for the dewannee of theſe provinces; and this agrees with the ſolution given to us by Mr. Luſhington: there is not the leaſt appearance of ſuch a deſign, as is mentioned by the Nabob's vakeel in the king's camp; viz. the procuring the ſunnuds for the ſubadarree of theſe provinces in the name of Serferaz Cawn's ſon, or any other in the place of Coſſim Ally Cawn; and it is with great pleaſure we aſſure you we are convinced, the Nabob's ſuſpicions on that head are entirely groundleſs.

We muſt obſerve to you, that the making any application for the dewannee in the name of the Company, or the encouraging others to do it, or the people about the court to offer it, was foreign from our intention, as may be ſeen by our inſtructions to Major Carnac of the and to you of the where we ſum up all the requeſts we had to make to the King; we were aware that ſuch a circumſtance would be to the Nabob a cauſe of great uneaſineſs, the ſubidary being a truſt of little authority or value, if the dewannee were in the hands of another.

The Preſident has acquainted the Nabob with the reſult of theſe enquiries, and repreſented to him, that it is highly juſt and neceſſary he ſhould make you all poſſible amends for the groundleſs ſuſpicions entertained of you; at the ſame time we think ſome apology is due from you to him, for the alarm you gave him upon a ſuſpicion equally unreaſonable, of his intending to attack the city of Patna.

We hope that no more of our time or yours will be taken up with diſcuſſions of this nature; but that a ſteady purſuit of the moſt neceſſary meaſures, for ſecuring the Company's poſſeſſions, and preſerving the tranquillity of the country, will, in future, employ all our attention. The inſtances in which any of us may have erred, will be pointed out, and cenſured by our ſuperiors; but let us here endeavour to ſhew an example of good harmony to the ſociety of which we are the chief members; and by preſerving ourſelves a proper reſpect for each other, excite the ſame ſentiments in others.

We are, with eſteem,
Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants.

Extract of a Letter from the Honourable the Preſident, &c. at Fort William, to Colonel Eyre Coote, dated 18th June 1761.

We hope your advice has had ſome effect upon Ramnarrain; it ſeems however, by his delays in ſettling accounts upon the footing directed in our joint letter to yourſelf and Mr. M'Gwire, dated the 17th of laſt month, that he is endeavouring, by evading the delivery of his accounts, to preſerve his own authority over the ſubahſhip, and prevent the Nabob's collecting any money; it is neither equitable nor expedient to ſuffer any more of the revenues to be loſt; but while the old accounts are under examination, let the Nabob place his own people to collect all the growing rents, and to call the zemindars to account for their balances, and let Ramnarrain's powers be ſuſpended until his accounts be ſettled, and a computation of the rents tranſmitted us, with the Nabob's propoſals for our determination, as deſired in our beforementioned letter.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Eyre Coote, to the Honourable the Preſident, &c. at Fort William, dated French Gardens, July 17th 1761.

By the following paragraph in your inſtructions to me, dated April 21ſt; viz. " As Ram- " narrain has been remarkably ſteady in his alliance with the Company, and received from " Colonel Clive particular aſſurances of protection, with reſpect to his perſon, fortune, " and government; we recommend to you to ſecure him againſt all attempts of oppreſſion " or injuſtice; and further, that the government of Patna be preſerved to him, if it be his " inclination to continue in it: it is needleſs for us to add, that it will be far more agreeable " to all parties, if that can be done by repreſenting to the Nabob the obligations we are " under to Ramnarrain, and preventing by that means the neceſſity of any forcible mea- " ſures;" alſo by ſeveral other letters ſince, partly corroborating the beforementioned paragraph,

graph, you continued desirous of giving Ramnarrain your protection, but chose finally to have the differences between him and the Nabob settled by your decision; and though the Nabob was pleased to offer me five lacks and a half of rupees to turn out Ramnarrain, and I was also sensible at that time, from the enmity the Nabob bore him, that the Rajah could not be continued in the subahship, yet so determined was I not to deviate in the least from your instructions, that however great this offer might appear, I refused it, by assuring the Nabob it was not in my power, but must be done by the Board; and I am convinced, ever since that refusal, he looked upon it I could not be his friend.

The following paragraph of my letter to you, dated June 13th, will also shew how desirous I was to have those affairs speedily determined.—"Ramnarrain is settling his accounts with "the Nabob, but goes on so slowly, that I can hardly say he has made a beginning: I most "sincerely wish this affair was settled one way or other." And on receipt of your letter of the 18th June, wherein you ordered that unfortunate Rajah to be suspended from having any power in the country, till his accounts were settled; I immediately sent to acquaint him, that till he settled his accounts, you had suspended him from the government of the province; and in consequence the cutcherry was removed to the Nabob's encampment.

APPENDIX, No. 14.

Extract of a Letter from the Directors to the President and Council at Fort William, dated London, 10th April 1771.

Par. 43. HAVING already apprised you of the purposes to which we mean to appropriate the saving above mentioned, we have only to direct, that when the navy and army donations, the debt due to Bolackidass, and the stipulated payment to Juggatseat, shall have been wholly satisfied and reimbursed to us out of the aggregate reductions before mentioned, such further sums as shall arise therefrom, are to be applied from time to time, to clear the balance unpaid to the claimants of the restitution fund, and the donation of two laaks to Colonel Munro, in such proportions as the respective claims may bear to each other, until the whole shall be discharged; but you are to take notice that the principal only of the sums due from the sircar are to be considered and allowed in the payments here ordered.

A Letter of Thanks to Major Munro.

Fort William, the 16th November 1764.
Tuesday. At a Consultation; Present,
The Honourable Henry Vansittart, Esquire, President.
John Spencer,
Cha. Stafford Playdell,
Warren Hastings,
John Johnstone,
Samuel Middleton,
Ralph Leycester,
John Burdett, Esquires.

A Letter of Thanks, addressed to the Commander in Chief.

Agreed that we address, on this occasion, the following letter to Major Munro.

Sir, We have received, with great pleasure, the first news of your success of the 23d October, against Shuja Dowla, by your note to the President from the field of battle, and yesterday we were favoured with your letter of the 26th, containing the detail of the action, which from the great force of the enemy, and the number of their artillery, is one of the most interesting that ever was fought in India. The signal victory you gained, so as at one blow utterly to defeat their designs against these provinces, is an event, which does so much honour to yourself, Sir, in particular, and to all the officers and men under your command, and which, at the same time, is attended with such important advantages to the Company, as calls upon us to return you our sincere thanks. We shall regard it at once as our pleasure and duty, to set forth to the Court of Directors, how much they are obliged to you for your skill and activity in the care of the army, before the opening of the campaign; your judgement in leading them into the field in the earliest of the season, and your conducting the disposition you made for receiving or attacking the enemy. We request that you will return our thanks to the other field officers, and the commandant of the artillery, for their care and vigilance in preserving this disposition, and taking every advantage over the enemy; and to the officers and men in general, for their bravery and good behaviour on this important occasion.

Lieutenants Nicoll, Harper, and Bevan, mentioned in your letter to us, and Captains Grant, Winwood, Hay, Stables, and Kinlock; Mr. Hamilton, your aid de camp; Lieutenant Duff, of the artillery; Mr. Stuart, your secretary; and Mr. Sage, who acted as Major Pemble's aid de camp, mentioned in like manner in your letter to the President, as meriting your particular notice, have gained great honour. They may be assured that your recommendation shall not be forgot; that they shall receive, upon all occasions, every encouragement

the

the rules of the ſervice will admit of. We ſhall alſo take the firſt opportunity of writing to the Preſident and Council of Bombay, of the good ſervices of Major Pemble, and Captains Hamilton and Mac Pherſon, belonging to that eſtabliſhment, and ſhall requeſt of them to take every opportunity of rewarding their merit.

For the further operations of the army we refer you to our ſeparate letter of inſtructions of this date, and are with great eſteem, Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,

Calcutta, 6th Nov. 1764.

H. VANSITTART, &c.

APPENDIX, No. 15.

Paragraph from General Letter to Bengal, 27th April 1763.

Par. 5. WITH reſpect to the jagueer given by the late Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan to Lord Clive, ariſing out of the lands granted by the ſaid Nabob to the Company, we direct that you do not pay any further ſums to the attornies of Lord Clive on that account; and we further direct, that whatever ſhall ariſe in future from the ſaid jagueer be carried to our credit. You are to cauſe exact accounts to be made out and tranſmitted to us, not only of what ſhall ſo come into our caſh, but alſo of all the ſums Lord Clive's attornies have already received on the ſaid account, together with the dates of the ſeveral payments; his Lordſhip's pretenſions to the ſaid jagueer will be ſettled here.

Copy Letter from the Secret Committee, dated 30th December 1763, to the Preſident, &c. of the Select Committee.

To the Preſident and the reſt of the Select Committee at Fort William.

Soon after the general letter of the Court of Directors of the 27th April laſt, containing orders to the Governor and Council to ſuſpend all future payments of the rents claimed by Lord Clive as a jaghire, his Lordſhip thought fit to commence a ſuit in the court of Chancery againſt the Company, inſiſting on a title to thoſe rents. A copy of his bill and the Company's anſwer we ſend you herewith, by which you will learn how he makes out his claim, and how we controvert it: if the plaintiff ſhould be adviſed to proceed in his cauſe, the next ſtep to be taken in it, we are told, will probably be a commiſſion to iſſue out of the ſaid court here, but to be executed in Bengal, in order to aſcertain the facts inſiſted on, and the conſtitution, uſage, and laws of the empire, as far as regards this queſtion; and for that purpoſe to examine and take the depoſitions in writing, of the ſeveral witneſſes either ſide may think fit to produce to prove or diſprove the ſeveral allegations contained in the bill or in the anſwer. Whenever ſuch a commiſſion iſſues, proper inſtructions will be ſent out with it, reſpecting the manner of executing it. In the mean time it is our deſire (and it is for this purpoſe we write you now) that you will immediately take the proper ſteps to inform yourſelves of the real ſtate of the facts material to the diſcuſſion of the ſeveral queſtions upon which the plaintiff's claim appears, by the bill and anſwer, to depend; particularly that you will immediately make proper enquiries into the authenticity of the pretended patent from the Mogul, creating the plaintiff an Emir or Omra of the empire, which he makes the foundation of his title, deriving from it a capacity to accept a jaghire, and, as he pretends, a right to expect one. If no ſuch patent ever iſſued (as we have great reaſon to believe) or if any of the uſual forms neceſſary to make it valid and effectual were wanting, this will be deciſive againſt him. You ſee therefore the importance of this enquiry, and cannot be too attentive to it. The manner of obtaining the ſuppoſed grant of the jaghire from Jaffier Aly Khan, the Nabob's motives, intentions, &c. muſt be likewiſe particularly enquired into, and in caſe there ſhould have been (as the plaintiff's own letters lead us to ſuſpect) any impoſture in any of the inſtruments ſuppoſed to have formerly iſſued, or if any thing of that kind ſhould be attempted now, you are to ſpare no pains or expence to detect it; and above all it is our deſire that you will inſtantly make effectual applications to the courts of Delhi and Muxadavad, to prevent the iſſuing any new grants or confirmations, by which the plaintiff might ſupply the defects of his preſent title, or acquire a new one, though he ſhould have none at preſent; for though we have no reaſon to deſire to prevent a fair diſcuſſion and deciſion of the plaintiff's preſent pretenſions, yet we are ſo fully ſenſible of the many inconveniences to the Company, which ſuch a title, ſhould it be eſtabliſhed, would occaſion, that we think it our duty to make the ſtricteſt enquiry into the foundation of the claim, and if there be no title at preſent, to uſe our beſt endeavours to prevent the acquiring one. We think it equally contrary to the honour, and to the intereſt of the Company, that it ſhould thus become tributary, as it were, to its own ſervants; and the ſoliciting, or even accepting, a grant of the ſovereignty of the Company's poſſeſſions appears ſo inconſiſtent with that relation, that we truſt it will be found as illegal, as we are ſure it is improper. If thoſe rents muſt be paid, we think it, upon many accounts, much more for the intereſt of the Company to pay them as uſual to the Nabob, for the uſe of the Mogul, than to any pretended grantee of theirs, whoſe receipts we fear would be of little uſe to the Company, when thoſe princes ſhould be diſpoſed to conſider the rents as in arrear; which we doubt not will be the caſe, if ever they find themſelves in a condition to compel the payment of them. Circumſtanced, however, as things were at Bengal, at the

time the late Nabob was induced to make the grant, which gives occaſion to the pre claim, we think the Company had a right to expect to be releaſed from this tribute altogether; and that the preſent claimant, then Governor of the Company's ſettlements, and Commander of their troops, ought to have employed the influence this ſtation gave him in procuring this conceſſion, for the Company's benefit inſtead of his own. The preſent ſituation of things there encourages us ſtill to hope, that both the Mogul and the reigning Nabob may be prevailed upon to relinquiſh theſe rents in favour of the Company: and as well for the ſake of the revenue, as to prevent the Company's being ever again embarraſſed with a claim like the preſent, we direct you to ſolicit and uſe your beſt endeavours to obtain that conceſſion, in caſe you find, as we truſt you will, that thoſe rents are ſtill in their diſpoſal.

As it will be neceſſary, for the purpoſe of carrying theſe orders into execution, that ſome perſon, in whom we can confide ſo great a truſt, ſhould be ſent to Muxadavad and Delhi, we think it neceſſary that one of you ſhould undertake this negociation. We recommend Mr. John Spencer, if he can be ſpared, otherwiſe Mr. Warren Haſtings; and whoever goes, is to take with him ſuch of the Company's ſervants as are beſt qualified by their capacity, integrity, and knowledge of the language, to give him the neceſſary aſſiſtance.

We have only to add, that in caſe the plaintiff ſhould think it neceſſary, as it is probable he may, to employ an agent in Bengal to aſſiſt him in any thing relative to the matters in diſpute between him and the Company, it will be obviouſly improper that any of you, with whom we now correſpond, or of the council to whom inſtructions may perhaps be ſent hereafter on this ſubject, ſhould accept that office. This laſt circumſtance you will privately communicate to the reſt of the Council.

We are
Your loving friends,
The Secret Committee of the Eaſt India Company.
H. Crabb Boulton, J. Dorrien,
John Boyd, Lau. Sulivan.

London,
30 Dec. 1763.

Fort William, the 23d April 1764.

Monday. At a Conſultation; Preſent,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.

The Nabob's Letter to the Governor and Council, in Conſequence of the Company's Orders regarding Colonel Clive's Jagheer.

The Preſident lays before the Board the following Letter, which he has received from the Nabob, addreſſed to himſelf and the Council.

Dated 27th March 1764.

From the Nabob to the Governor and Council.

" I am informed by Major Carnac, that the Gentlemen of Council at Calcutta, in con-
" formity to the directions of the counſellors in Europe, have taken poſſeſſion of, and
" propoſe paying into the Company's treaſury, the rents of the jagheer, which I aſſigned to
" my ſon Colonel Clive, in conſideration of the great ſervices he performed for me, and
" which God is my witneſs I gave him, without his deſiring it, merely as a reward for his
" dutiful and affectionate behaviour to me. This affair ſurpriſed me greatly, becauſe no
" other Gentlemen have any right to what I have given to my ſon Colonel Clive. If there-
" fore it is not agreeable to them to continue the jagheer to my ſaid ſon, the right and
" property thereof reverts to me. I will reſume it. Whatever money now is, or may
" hereafter be due, on account of the ſaid jagheer, you will be pleaſed to pay it into the
" hands of Mr. Vanſittart, that ſo I may receive the full amount thereof. Let theſe my
" orders be faithfully complied with."

The reverſion of it to him eſteemed inconteſtable.

Since the Company have been pleaſed to forbid our continuing to pay this jagheer to Lord Clive, we are unanimouſly of opinion, that the Nabob's right to the money is inconteſtable.

Order and Reſolution in Conſequence.

Ordered therefore, that the accomptant to the Committee of Lands, do prepare, and lay before the Board, an account of what is due to this time; the ſame may be brought to the Nabob's credit.

And agreed, that the Preſident do adviſe the Nabob accordingly.

Fort William, the 7th May 1764.

Monday. At a Conſultation; Preſent,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,

Randolph

Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.

Account of money due on Lord Clive's jagheer.

The accomptant to the Committee of Lands lays before the Board the account money due on Lord Clive's jagheer to the 11th April laſt, amounting to — S^a. R^s. 1,25,655 7 3

Entered, and an Order to the Sub Treaſurer.

Ordered, It be entered, and that the ſub-treaſurer be directed to paſs the amount to the credit of the Nabob's account, and the debit of the Company's zemindary.

Particulars of the ſums on which Roydolub received his commiſſion in three payments.

To the Company	4683595	11	7
Army and Navy	2341797	8	3
Inhabitants	3606368	—	6
	106,31,761	4	4
Deduct army and navy, on which no commiſſion was drawn	2341797	8	3
	8289963	12	1
	5		
	4,14,498	1	5
Committee 1150000 5 per cent.	57500		
A preſent from Colonel Clive, being 5 per cent. upon 25 lacks	1,25000		
	596998		

An Account of Money agreeable to the receipts of Raja Dolevaram, received account commiſſion, viz.

5 ſun ſiccas	7400
Muxadavad ſonauts	94991
Dacca ſonauts	10513
Patna ſonauts	148770
Arcot good	41330
Patna leſs rupees	54903
Arcots leſs	85144½
Sonauts of forts leſs	153178
Rs.	596229½

N. B. The above ſums are given to Rajah Dolevaram by Coja Petruſe, the bags containing ſome one thouſand, and ſome two thouſand; the ſaid bags were ſealed with a mohur of Nabob Surozut Dowlah, and regularly the above ſums were received by Dolevaram; but thoſe bags that were leſs to the amount of 767 Z. Rs. which was likewiſe received by him.

Lord Clive obſerved, concerning the account laid before the Governor and Council by Roy Dullub, in which is an article of 5 per cent. received by him (Roy Dullub) on a preſent of 25 lacks of rupees given by the Nabob to his Lordſhip, that to the beſt of his recollection Roy Dullub, who was the Nabob's prime miniſter and treaſurer, received a commiſſion of 5 per cent. upon all the treaty money (except that to the navy and army) upon all the committee money, and alſo upon all the ſeparate donations to thoſe individuals, as well Blacks as Europeans, who had been particularly uſeful in the revolution; ſome of whoſe names were mentioned in his Lordſhip's evidence on the 28th of April; that thoſe ſeparate donations muſt be included in the 25 lacks ſpecified in Roy Dullub's account.—Lord Clive having been the principal perſon, he imagined was the reaſon, why the whole of that money was put under his name, although his proportion was only what has been already declared by his Lordſhip. And it is certain, that the deduction of 5 per cent. commiſſion for Roy Dullub was made from every body's proportion as well as from Lord Clive's.

A motion was made, and the queſtion being put, That the ſaid report be printed;

It paſſed in the negative.

Ordered, That the ſaid report do lie upon the table.

Colonel Burgoyne alſo reported from the ſaid Committee, That the Committee had examined the matter of the petition of Gregore Cojamaul, late of Bengal, in the Eaſt Indies, on behalf of himſelf and others, referred to their conſideration; and had directed him to report the ſame, as it appeared to them, to the Houſe; and he read the report in his place; and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table: where the ſame was read; and is as followeth, viz.

The committee who were appointed to enquire into the nature, ſtate, and condition, of the Eaſt-India Company, and of the Britiſh affairs in the Eaſt Indies, and to whom the petition of Gregore Cojamaul, late of Bengal, in the Eaſt Indies, on behalf of himſelf

himſelf and others, was referred, have, purſuant to the order of the Houſe, examined the matter of the ſaid petition; and conſidering the lateneſs of the preſent ſeſſions and the importance of the ſubject, beg leave to lay before the Houſe the whole of the evidence upon their proceedings thereon.

Veneris, 8° die Maii, 1772.

Colonel Burgoyne in the chair; Preſent,

Mr. Johnſtone,	Sir John Turner,
Mr. Sutton,	Mr. Ongley,
Mr. Vane,	Mr. Hotham,
Mr. Strachey,	Mr. Pitt,
Mr. Curzon,	Mr. Cornwall,
Mr. Fuller,	Mr. Ellis.

Read, the petition of Gregore Cojamaul; as follows:

" To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled.

" The humble Petition of Gregore Cojamaul, late of Bengal, in the Eaſt Indies, on behalf " of himſelf and others,

" Sheweth,

" That your petitioner, who is an Armenian chriſtian, and native of Iſphahan in Perſia, " has for many years reſided in India as a merchant, particularly in the provinces of Bengal " and its dependencies, where thoſe of his nation have ever been allowed to carry on trade, " according to the ancient uſages of thoſe countries, and even were indulged with certain " privileges in that reſpect.

" That your petitioner, who has ever ſtrictly conformed himſelf to the uſages of thoſe " reſpective countries, has, with many others of his nation, of late, been greatly impeded " in their buſineſs as merchants, by the moſt cruel, deſtructive, and injurious regulations, and " grievouſly oppreſſed by long and cruel impriſonments, and otherwiſe, by the nominal na- " bobs, and other ſervants of the Engliſh Eaſt-India Company in Bengal, notwithſtanding " your petitioner never in any degree injured the ſaid Company, nor was ever guilty of any " breach of the laws, either of India or this nation; to the known juſtice of which laſt, he " has already applied for ſatisfaction for the great loſſes and injuries he has ſuſtained.

" That, when your petitioner, and others, have been injured and oppreſſed by ſuch im- " priſonments within the diſtricts to which His Majeſty's moſt gracious charter of juſtice, " granted to the ſaid Company, is not allowed to extend, they have applied to the ſaid no- " minal nabobs of Bengal for juſtice, who have referred them and your petitioner to the " Preſident or Secret Committees of Calcutta in Bengal, alledging ſuch impriſonments to " have been effected by their orders; and when, on the part of your petitioner and ſuch " other perſons, application has been made for juſtice at Calcutta to the ſaid Company's " governor and preſident of the ſecret committees, they have been referred back to the ſaid " nabobs; and in this grievous ſituation, without ever being able to know of what crime he " was accuſed, your petitioner, by ſuch evaſions, has been ruined, and left without any " other remedy than the precarious redreſs which he may poſſibly obtain from the courts of " law in this country, under all the diſadvantages of ſeeking juſtice in a foreign land, at ſuch " a diſtance from the ſcene of action, without friends or money.

" That your petitioner, upon his arrival in England, was adviſed to apply to the Directors " of the Eaſt India Company for redreſs, in conſequence of the injuries he had ſuſtained by " their ſervants abroad, which your petitioner did accordingly in the moſt humble manner, " but has never yet been able to obtain any ſatisfactory anſwer from that Honourable Board.

" That your petitioner is about to return to his family and buſineſs in Bengal, where, " under the preſent double government, he is apprehenſive his perſon, property, and family, " as well as the reſt of his nation, will be expoſed to greater hardſhips than before, on account " of his having applied for juſtice in England, unleſs protected by ſome effectual regulations " of government by the Britiſh Legiſlature.

" Your petitioner therefore humbly prays this Honourable Houſe to take this caſe into " conſideration, and grant ſuch relief in the premiſes, with reſpect to the future " ſecurity of perſons and property in Bengal, as to the wiſdom of this Honourable " Houſe ſhall ſeem meet.

(Signed) " Gregore Cojamaul."

The Committee then read parts of a letter written by Lord Clive, upon his leaving Bengal, to Mr. Verelſt and the reſt of the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, dated the 16th January 1767; as follows:

" The firſt point in politics which I offer to your conſideration, is the form of govern- " ment. We are ſenſible that ſince the acquiſition of the Dewanny, the power formerly " belonging to the ſoubah of theſe provinces, is totally, in fact, veſted in the East India " Company. Nothing remains to him but the name and ſhadow of authority. This name " however, this ſhadow, it is indiſpenſably neceſſary we ſhould ſeem to venerate; every mark " of diſtinction and reſpect muſt be ſhewn him, and he himſelf encouraged to ſhew his " reſentment upon the leaſt want of reſpect from other nations.

" Under

" Under the ſanction of a ſoubah, every encroachment that may be attempted by foreign " powers can effectually be cruſhed, without any apparent interpoſition of our own authority; " and all real grievances complained of by them, can, through the ſame channel, be examined " into and redreſſed. Be it therefore always remembered that there is a ſoubah, that we have " allotted him a ſtipend, which muſt be regularly paid, in ſupport of his dignity; and that " though the revenues belong to the Company, the territorial juriſdiction muſt ſtill reſt in " the chiefs of the country acting under him, and this Preſidency in conjunction. To " appoint the Company's ſervants to the offices of collectors, or indeed to do any act by an " exertion of the Engliſh power, which can equally be done by the Nabob at our inſtance, " would be throwing off the maſk, would be declaring the Company ſoubah of the provinces. " Foreign nations would immediately take umbrage, and complaints preferred to the Britiſh " court might be attended with very embarraſſing conſequences. Nor can it be ſuppoſed " that either the French, Dutch, or Danes, would readily acknowledge the Company's " ſoubahſhip, and pay into the hands of their ſervants the duties upon trade, or the quit- " rents of thoſe diſtricts which they may have long been poſſeſſed of by virtue of the royal " phirmaunds, or grants from former Nabobs.

" To what I have urged in general upon the ſubject of regulations, I beg leave to add a " few words in relation to one particular point: all the Company's ſervants at the aurungs, " all thoſe at the out factories, except ſuch as are fixed at the ſubordinates, and are neceſſa- " rily employed in the ſilk buſineſs, all free merchants, muſt be recalled, and their place " of reſidence confined to Calcutta. Orders for this purpoſe have already been iſſued, and " the time for their being obeyed is limited. Herein no conſideration whatſoever, ſcarcely " humanity itſelf, except in any very extraordinary inſtance, ſhould tempt you to relax; for " be aſſured, that until theſe regulations take place, the Company cannot be properly ſaid to " enjoy their juſt rights and privileges, nor the natives to be maſters of their own property.

" Another growing evil, which requires a ſpeedy remedy, is the number of vagabonds " that infeſt the Preſidency. All thoſe muſt be apprehended and embarked on board ſhips " for Europe without delay. In their native country they may become uſeful to the public, " but in Calcutta they are worſe than idlers. Our police is not perfect enough to prevent " their being guilty of many outrages, of which I need only mention the oppreſſing the " poor inhabitants, and the retailing of ſpirituous liquors, which deſtroy the conſtitution and " lives of many of our ſoldiers."

The Committee then read part of a minute of Mr. Verelſt, who ſucceeded Lord Clive in the government of Bengal, as recorded in the proceedings of a ſelect committee held on the 5th February 1767, at which were alſo preſent Colonel Richard Smith, Francis Sykes, Claud Ruſſell, and Alexander Campbell, Eſquires; viz.

" Lord Clive, in his letter to this Committee, has been ſo very explicit on the preſent " ſtate of affairs, and has fixed on ſo judicious and ſo wiſe a plan of politics, that I conſider " it as my duty to recommend in the moſt earneſt manner, our ſtrictly adhering thereto, from " a conviction that it is a plan the beſt calculated to inſure ſtability to the affairs of the Com- " pany, to preſerve harmony and concord amongſt ourſelves, and to eſtabliſh that order, re- " gularity, and ſubordination, without which the greateſt and moſt opulent kingdoms cannot " long ſubſiſt—Though his Lordſhip is no longer preſent to aſſiſt us in thoſe ſalutary meaſures " for the welfare of the Company, which he had ſo much at heart, and in the proſecution of " which he riſqued his health, his life, and every thing dear, yet the legacy he has left us " will ſerve as a guide for our future conduct, in the weighty and important concerns of this " government."

The petitioner, Gregore Cojamaul, was then called upon to give an account of the circumſtances of his being taken up and confined, to the time of his releaſement and embarkation for England; which he did in the following words:

On the 14th March 1768, Rajah Bulwantſing's officer ſeized me at Bara Fort, and told me it was in conſequence of an order that the Rajah had received from the Calcutta governor, Mr. Verelſt. Then I was taken to different forts under forty men, who guarded me. On the 17th they put me in a boat, where was another priſoner, an Armenian Gentleman, called Melcomb Philip. We were carried to Chowſah, where I received from the Rajah and his miniſters, letters of condolance on my impriſonment, and approbation of my conduct. After ſome days we were carried to Patna, where we arrived the 30th March, and we were carried before the Company's collector named Shitabroy, who confined us in his cutcherry till the 6th April. He then ſent away Rajah Bulwantſing's guards, and put Engliſh Sepoys over us. As ſoon as the guard was changed, they carried us into a boat in ſuch a haſty manner, that we could not know what we were accuſed of; one day we heard there was an order of Mr. Verelſt, the governor of Calcutta, that we ſhould be carried to Murſhedabad, before Mahomed Reza Khawn. We arrived at Murſhedabad on the 26th April 1768, and we were carried before Mahomed Reza Khawn, who was the ſuperior of the Engliſh collectors. He ordered us to be carried to a place called Ferrahbag. On the 27th April, the firſt Sepoys guard was ſent away, and other Engliſh Sepoys were put in their place, under the command of Major Chriſtian Fiſcher.—While we were priſoners, our relations and friends applied to the Nabob to releaſe us, who told them he had wrote to Calcutta for orders. At Calcutta our relations preſented a petition to the Governor and Council, which was preſented to Mr. Verelſt himſelf, who told them to go and apply to the Nabob at the city of Murſhadabad. On

the 23d May we were releaſed. We went to Calcutta, where we arrived the 8th June. On the 10th we waited on Mr. Verelſt, to know his pleaſure. He inſiſted we had not been priſoners. I told Mr. Verelſt that I had tranſacted buſineſs for ſome Engliſh gentlemen, under a purwannah, ſealed with the Company's ſeal; he ſaid, If this is the caſe, then you are blameleſs: bring the purwannah and ſhew it me—I did not bring my purwannah to ſhew him, being adviſed not to do it, becauſe the other gentleman, Melcomb Phillip, told me that he had carried his, and that Mr. Verelſt had detained it. Afterwards I was diſtreſſed, from an order that no Armenian or Portugueſe ſhould go out of the Engliſh dominions, ſo I remained without having my goods, or being able to collect my money, which determined me to come to this country to ſeek for juſtice.

Q. To what value do you ſuppoſe the goods and debts you left behind you amounted to?

A. In all £. 5,000.

Q. Was that belonging to yourſelf?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you leave no goods or debts with which you was intruſted by other people?

A. I did.

Q. Whoſe goods?

A. Mr. Bolts's and Mr. Hare's. I gueſs, about 10 or £. 12,000 worth.

Q. In what part of the country were thoſe goods and debts?

A. In Bulwantſing's dominions.

Q. Since that time have you received no account of your own debts, or thoſe belonging to Mr. Bolts or Mr. Hare?

A. I have had no account—I have been in England ſince Auguſt 1769.

Q. Did you never hear that the Company's ſervants were forbid to trade in Bultwantſing's country?

A. No—I think the Company's ſervants were allowed to trade in that country, becauſe I have often ſeen goods there belonging to the Engliſh, and have ſeen Engliſh gomaſtahs in that country.

Q. Do you think your goods and debts, together with thoſe of Mr. Bolts and Mr. Hare, are loſt, ſo that you ſhall never receive them?

A. I don't expect a farthing.

Q. Of the £. 5,000 you left, what part was in goods, and what in debts?

A. Rather more in debts than goods.

Q. When you left that country, did you look upon your debts as good?

A. At that time every one was good.

Q. What part of Mr. Bolts's and Mr. Hare's property, left behind, was in goods, and what in debts?

A. As I gueſs, rather more in goods than in debts.

Q. Did you apprehend that their debts were good when you left that country?

A. They were good.

Q. Do you know of any goods of Engliſh manufactory being ſold in Bulwantſing's country?

A. No.

Q. Do you know of any Engliſh broad cloth and copper, or other Engliſh commodities, being ſold in Bulwantſing's or Sujahal Dowlah's country?

A. I never ſaw it, but have heard of it.

Q. At what time was it that you have heard of Engliſh goods being ſold in Bulwantſing's country?

A. Between 1767 and 1768.

Mr. Cojamaul's original purwannah was then produced and declared by Mr. Rumbold to be the purwannah iſſued by him when he was chief of Patna—It was interpreted by Gonyſhamdaſs as follows:

SEAL.
The Magnificent Merchants of the Engliſh Company, the Dewans of the Magnificent Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, Servants of the bold King Shah Allum.

The governors, zemindars, chowdries and canongoes, of the diſtricts belonging to the province of Ghazipore, which belongs to the great province of Owd, may obſerve—Since Gregore, gomaſtah, being appointed by Mr. Francis Hare, gentleman, to buy and ſell goods, he going into that country, that he may carry on trade for the aboveſaid Gentleman, for the ſpace of ſix months, it is neceſſary that nobody ſhall interrupt him, that he may carry on trade by uprightneſs with an eaſy mind; it is neceſſary, that they, having obſerved the power of this order, may put it in execution—Dated the 30th October 1767, in the 9th year of the King.

Mr.

Mr. Cojamaul was then aſked, Had you ever any warning or notice either from the ſervants of the Engliſh Company or Bulwantſing, or any of his officers, that you was conducting yourſelf improperly, before you was ſeized and impriſoned?

A. I never had any notice.

Q. Did you think that purwannah gave you authority to trade for Mr. Bolts?

A. No.

Q. Had you any purwannah to trade for Mr. Bolts?

A. No.

Q. Had you a right to trade for the Engliſh without a purwannah?

A. I had, being a merchant ſettled in that country.

Q. If you had a right to trade without a purwannah, what uſe was there in having one?

A. I was adviſed if I did any buſineſs for Engliſh Gentlemen to get one—I had liberty and permiſſion from the Rajah Bulwantſing to do buſineſs in that country, and never was moleſted; the rajah and the people were ſatisfied.

Q. Was Ghazipore part of Bulwantſing's country?

A. It was.

Q. When you came to this kingdom, did you apply to the Eaſt India Company?

A. I arrived in London the 18th Auguſt 1769—I preſented a petition to the Court of Directors on the 12 September, and I never had any anſwer—In October the Secretary ſent me a letter that he would be glad to ſpeak with me any morning. I employed Mr. Bolts becauſe I could not talk Engliſh myſelf.

Q. Did Mr. Verelſt ever deſire you to give him a liſt of your goods, and ſay he would aſſiſt you in recovering them?

A. No.

Q. When you carried on trade in Bulwantſing's country, did you ever make uſe of the Engliſh name?

A. I did not, I had no occaſion, becauſe I was a merchant—I traded for Engliſh Gentlemen, but did not call myſelf an Engliſh gomaſtah, nor ſaid I traded by Engliſh authority.

Thomas Rumbold, eſq. being then called, ſaid, with regard to purwannahs, they are of very different kinds. When they are iſſued in the manner of that produced, for the purchaſe of goods, the ſervants of the Company have only been intitled to them—They exempt the poſſeſſor from all duties or impoſitions of the officers of the country government, and no man reſiding in Bulwantſing's country, without them, or within the provinces, could have carried on their buſineſs without being liable to frequent interruption, and demands of duties from the farmers of the diſtricts. I believe there has been no Armenians reſiding in Shujah Dowla's country, 'till the influence obtained by the Engliſh, and they were after that, in common with other gomaſtahs, employed by the ſervants of the Company. It was ſome-time doubtful whether we had a right to grant thoſe purwannahs for the purchaſe of goods within his dominions: it had however been for ſome time done, and no notice taken of it, probably from Shujah Dowla's being afraid of offending the Engliſh after being put in poſſeſſion of his country. In courſe of time, complaints came that the gomaſtahs of the Engliſh were guilty of many oppreſſions in that country. Many letters were wrote by Shujah Dowla; ſome I received myſelf, and General Smith, who was at the court of Shujah Dowla, often made repreſentations to me how diſagreeable it was to the Nabob to have thoſe gomaſtahs reſiding with ſuch a protection within his country; this occaſioned orders from the Preſident and Council of Fort William, that no purwannahs ſhould in future be granted; that all the gomaſtahs ſhould be recalled, and, that when goods paſſed the boundaries of the Bahar province, whether belonging to the natives of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, or not, ſhould be ſubject to the duties collected by Shujah Dowlah's officers from other merchants.—In ſhort, that the Engliſh privilege ſhould be withdrawn I believe, that thoſe orders from the Preſident and Council were in conſequence of ſome directions from home.—All men who had thoſe purwannahs were intitled to particular privileges, and exemption from all duties of the country government. When the orders came for recalling the gomaſtahs, ſeveral gentlemen at Patna repreſented, that they ſhould ſuffer greatly by the immediate recall of their gomaſtahs, before they could have time to adjuſt their concerns, and ſeveral who made this repreſentation were indulged with a longer time; but there appearing no end to that indulgence, another order was ſent for their immediate return, and to deliver up their purwannahs. This order was ſignified to the ſeveral gentlemen I had granted purwannahs to; many of the purwannahs were redelivered to me. I cannot ſpeak particularly to the purwannah of thoſe Armenians, why it was not given up, or whether the time was elapſed.—Several gomaſtahs ſtill remained in Shujah Dowla's country, and took the names of Engliſh Gentlemen: three in particular took my name, and were ſeized either by Shujah Dowla, or the troops acting under Captain Harper: Mr. Verelſt, Preſident at Calcutta, wrote to me, that he was ſurpriſed there ſhould be men acting for me in that country, when the orders from the Preſidency had ſo frequently been repeated againſt it. I wrote him for anſwer, I was very glad they had been taken up, and hoped they would meet with a due puniſhment for acting in my name without any authority from me. The only gomaſtahs that I kept in the country at that time, were for the ſervice of the Company, and by permiſſion of Shujah Dowlah, to provide timber at a place called Gorruckpore, for building barracks for the troops. I never had any complaint from Mr. Hare, who was the ſecond at Patna, of thoſe people who by that purwannah had acted as his gomaſtahs, being

ſeized.

ſeized.—I cannot recollect the time, but Mr. Bolts wrote to me, mentioning theſe Armenians being in Shujah Dowla's country, and recommending to me to employ them as my gomaſtahs; he particularly mentioned to me the advantages that would ariſe by carrying on a particular trade by them. I declined employing them.

Q. At what time did you receive thoſe complaints from Shujah al Dowla?

A. I cannot charge my memory with the particular time.

Q. Did not Mr. Johnſtone preſent the purwannah now produced, to you ſeveral days ago, to look at the date, that you might be maſter of the ſubject?

A. Certainly.

Q. Did you underſtand this purwannah was both to buy and ſell?

A. Undoubtedly.

Q. By what ſtipulation of treaty or other regulation, did the exemption of duties ariſe in conſequence of the Engliſh purwannah in Bulwantſing's and Shujah Dowla's country?

Refers back to the former part of his evidence.

Q. Do you remember the date when orders were ſent to you not to grant any more purwannahs?

A. I have many copies of tranſactions abroad, which I keep for my own ſatisfaction—If on looking over my papers, I ſhall find the copy of the order, I ſhall certainly bring it to the Committee.

Q. In what light do you conſider Shitabroy?

A. I conſider Shitabroy, as a man appointed by the Nabob and miniſters, to collect the revenues, with the approbation of the Company's agents, as having the dewanny in their poſſeſſion.

Q. Who do you conceive the Nabob and miniſters to be appointed by?

A. I believe the Company's records will ſhew.

Q. Have you any belief or knowledge concerning that yourſelf?

A. I never had the honour of being concerned in the appointment of any nabob or miniſter.

Q. When you was chief at Patna, was Shitabroy under your direction?

A. No.

Q. Was he perfectly independent of your authority?

A. Intirely independent of my authority.

Q. Do you conſider him as a ſervant of the Eaſt-India Company or not?

A. No more than I conſider Mahomed Reza Cawn.

Q. Do you conſider Mahomed Reza Cawn as a ſervant?

A. I conſider him as the miniſter of the Nabob.

Q. Does Mahomed Reza Cawn receive his directions upon the affairs of government from the Nabob?

A. I never was preſent at any directions that were ſent to him.

Q. Did you ever ſend or give any order to Shitabroy?

A. I never gave an order to him in my life, but I have made many requeſts to him as chief of the factory.

Q. Was he always ſo civil as to grant your requeſts?

A. He was one of the beſt bred men I ever met with, and I never gave him an order.

Q. What would have been the conſequence to Shitabroy, if he had refuſed the requeſt?

A. If it had been on behalf of the Eaſt-India Company, I ſhould have repreſented it to the Governor and Council of Calcutta.—If of a private nature, I muſt have ſatisfied myſelf.

Q. Do you ſuppoſe, in conſequence of ſuch repreſentation, Shitabroy would have been removed from his office?

A. I ſuppoſe, if it had been any thing that materially affected the intereſts of the Company, the Nabob would have ſhewed a proper reſentment to the officer who had charge of his buſineſs in that province.

Q. Do you believe Shitabroy would have dared to refuſe any requeſt coming from you officially as a public officer of the Company, and upon a public account?

A. Except the requeſt had been very improper, I don't believe he would.

Q. Who pays Shitabroy his ſalary?

A. He is paid out of the revenues, the ſame as other officers employed in the collection of them.

Q. Who is it that pays him, the Nabob or the Company?

A. Certainly the Nabob; he receives it out of the revenues, and makes up his accounts every year to the Nabob, at Murſhedabad.

Q. Was it paid out of the groſs revenue, or out of the particular revenue aſſigned to the Nabob by treaty?

A. Out of the groſs revenue.

Q. About what time were theſe purwannahs firſt iſſued?

A. There were purwannahs iſſued before I was chief of the factory, which was in December 1766.

Q. Were any purwannahs ordered by Lord Clive?

A. I don't recollect.

Q. Were purwannahs of the ſame effect as thoſe produced, iſſued in Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa?

A. There were, to the Company's ſervants, mentioning the name of the gomaſtahs employed by them.

Q.

Q. Could a gomaſtah, acting under ſuch a purwannah, ſend goods free of duties without a duſtuck?

A. Certainly not—The duſtuck paſſes the goods by the different cuſtom-houſes, which are called chokies; but there is a duty upon almoſt every ſpecies of goods that is paid to the farmer where thoſe goods are manufactured, which the duſtuck has nothing to do with, and which all the country merchants are ſubject to, but which the purwannah given to our merchants exempts them from, as I have always underſtood. I am not ſure, whether the duty is paid by the purchaſer or manufacturer, but which ever it is, the purwannah exempts him—I have traded in Shujah Dowlah's country, in ophium and ſome little ſaltpetre.

Q. Do they pay duties in Shujah Dowla's country?

A. I always traded as a ſervant of the Company, and conſequently my agents were furniſhed with purwannahs and duſtucks, and therefore I cannot ſpeak poſitively to the duties—When thoſe orders came to me, every gomaſtah of mine was recalled.

Q. Had you ever any complaints againſt Cogee Gregore, Cogee Melcomb, Cogee Johannes, Padre Rafael, or Ramſunker?

A. Never particularly; the complaints that I heard were in general againſt the Engliſh gomaſtahs.

Q. Did you ever hear or know the cauſes for confining thoſe gomaſtahs?

A. I never heard any thing in particular about them.

Q. Had you ever any complaint from any of the princes of the country, while you was chief at Patna, againſt Mr. Bolts?

A. No; not to my recollection.

The Committee then proceeded to read part of the proceedings held at a conſultation of the 18 May 1768, in Calcutta; at which were preſent Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Preſident; Colonel Richard Smith, Richard Becher, James Alexander, Claud Ruſſell, William Alderſey, and Charles Ffloyer, Eſquires; as follows:

" The Select Committee lay before us the following extract from their proceedings of
" the 27th ultimo.

" Extract from the proceedings of the Select Committee, the 27 April 1768.

" This Board being ſenſible of the great diſadvantages reſulting from an immediate recall " of gomaſtahs of individuals, at preſent trading in the countries of the Nabob Shujah al " Dowla and Bulwantſing, under the ſanction of the Engliſh, it is reſolved to allow them " to reſide there for the ſpace of two months, for the adjuſtment of the affairs of their con- " ſtituents, and the collection of their outſtanding balances, and ſhall on no account what- " ever be allowed to engage in any new concern, and that they ſhall quit thoſe countries " immediately after the expiration of the term limited for their reſidence.

" And in order to facilitate the adjuſtments of their affairs, as well as to prevent the " frauds and other abuſes to which ſuch a reſtriction might otherwiſe expoſe them; it is " further reſolved and agreed, that the Preſident do inform the Nabob Shujah al Dowla and " Bulwantſing, of theſe injunctions laid upon all gomaſtahs in their countries, and to " requeſt they will grant them every reaſonable aſſiſtance they may require, for the ſpeedy " regulation of their concerns.

" Agreed, that the foregoing reſolutions be laid before the Preſident and Council, and " that we do recommend to them to iſſue their orders for effectually preventing, in future, any " trade being carried on beyond the provinces by gomaſtahs aſſuming the Engliſh name.

" A true extract. (Signed)
" CHARLES FFLOYER,
" Secretary of the Select Committtee."

" The ſame having been read, and we concurring in opinion therewith, it is agreed and " reſolved, that after the expiration of two months, from the 27th April, no gomaſtahs " employed by the Engliſh ſhall be permitted to remain in any part of India, out of the " provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa; and after that period, that no Company's " ſervant, free merchant, or other European reſiding under the Company's protection, ſhall " be ſuffered to carry on any inland trade directly or indirectly, beyond thoſe limits, under pe- " nalty, if a Company's ſervant, of being immediately diſmiſſed the ſervice; if a free merchant, " or other European, of forfeiting the Company's protection. And it is further agreed and " reſolved, that if any European whatever ſhall attempt to tranſport any merchandize beyond " the provinces, all ſuch merchandize ſhall be ſeized and confiſcated, and the gomaſtahs " having charge of ſuch contraband trade ſhall be puniſhed with the utmoſt ſeverity.

" All Armenians, Portugueſe, or tho deſcendants of Armenians and Portugueſe, are " included in the above reſtrictions, it being intended that none but the natives of the " country (Muſſelmen and Hindoos) ſhall in future enjoy this privilege.

" Ordered, That public notice be given of this reſolution, and agreed, that we acquaint " the Gentlemen at the ſubordinates of the ſame, and ſend them a copy of the publication " made here, that it may be iſſued at their reſpective reſidencies alſo."

Mr. Rumbold was then aſked, Do you remember any public orders for prohibiting Armenians, their deſcendants, and others, from trading in Shujah Dowla or Bulwantſing's dominions before the edict of the 18 May 1768, which has now been read?

A. I do not recollect any, but ſhould there have been any order at that time which may have ſlipt my memory, I hope the Committee will not ſuppoſe that I had any intention of ſecreting it.

Q. Was it not your practice at Patna to enter in a book all your letters of correſpondence with the country powers?

A. I believe they moſtly were, but I have no copies.

Q. Are thoſe books tranſmitted from the ſubordinate factories to the Preſidency?

A. I do not believe the books of country correſpondence have been ſo tranſmitted.

Q. Were thoſe general orders for withdrawing the gomaſtahs and purwannahs, iſſued by you, entered?

A. I believe they are.

Mr. Cojamaul was then aſked, When you purchaſed goods for Mr. Hare, did you pay the duty to the zemindar?

A. I know of but one duty, and that goes to the ſouzdar or his officers: I never purchaſed any thing without paying a duty.

Q. Why did you not produce the purwannah to excuſe Mr. Hare from paying the duty?

A. Becauſe I did not chuſe to act as a gomaſtah, but as a merchant; I told Mr. Hare, I would not do it.

Q. Why did you take the purwannah?

A. I was adviſed by my friends, but I never uſed it.

Q. Do you know nothing of any duties whatſoever, from which the producing that purwannah would exempt you?

A. The force of this purwannah, as I have heard, is to hinder the duty in the Engliſh or any other dominions; but I never made uſe of it; the duty is trifling.

Q. Did you charge Mr. Hare with the duties?

A. Yes.

Q. Why did you, when you had a purwannah that would have exempted them?

A. Becauſe I told Mr. Hare at firſt, that I would not be employed as a gomaſtah for the Engliſh, but as a merchant.

Q. What is the force of the duſtuck?

A. To paſs the goods by the chokies.

Q. Is there not a duty paid in the place where the goods are manufactured?

A. Yes—where they are bought or manufactured.

Q. Have you your account with Mr. Hare?

A. No, it remains in India.

Q. Is it any diſgrace to be an Engliſh gomaſtah?

A. A merchant is always reſpected more, and has more credit, than a gomaſtah.

Q. Is a merchant more reſpected than an Engliſh gomaſtah?

A. It is a character of more reſpect.

Q. Did you ever apply to Mr. Verelſt for redreſs?

A. I never applied myſelf, but my friends did.

Q. What was their application?

A. It was for redreſs. I have heard of no anſwer from my friends, that they could get.

Q. Who were thoſe friends?

A. Melcomb Philip; he ſaid he could get no anſwer.

Q. Did you ever ſend any goods to Mr. Hare?

A. I have ſent things of little conſequence.

Lunæ 11° die Maii, 1772.

Colonel Burgoyne in the Chair; Preſent,

Mr. Johnſtone,	Mr. Trecothick,
Mr. Vane,	Mr. Ongley,
Mr. Pulteney,	Lord Clive,
Mr. Strachey,	Mr. Pitt,
Sir G. Elliot,	Lord Folkeſtone.

The Committee proceeded to read the following extract from a letter of the Governor and Select Committee in Bengal, to the Directors of the Eaſt India Company, dated 31ſt January 1766, ſigned, Clive, Wm. B. Sumner, John Carnac, H. Verelſt, and Francis Sykes, viz.

" To us it evidently appears there remained but the alternative, to advance as we have " done, and graſp at the whole power, or to ſhrink back into our primitive condition of " ſimple merchants; to abandon our poſſeſſions, diſband our forces, and reſt our future " hopes on the clemency of princes, who will not eaſily forget or forgive the ſuperiority we " have ſo long maintained.—In a word, this laſt meaſure was in itſelf impracticable; for " we muſt obſerve, although with much regret, that the miſconduct of individuals hath " rendered the Engliſh name ſo odious, that we are no longer ſecure, than while our hands " are armed for the defence of our lives and property."

Read, part of the proceedings of the Select Committee in Bengal, held at Baraſut, the 31 December 1766, at which were preſent Lord Clive, Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Brigadier General Carnac, and Francis Sykes, Eſquire, as follows:

" Mahomed Reza Khawn repreſenting to us the great expence which he neceſſarily incurs " in ſupporting the dignity and influence of his ſtation, an expence which he has hitherto " defrayed by receiving thoſe perquiſites and emoluments uſually annexed to his office, and " deſiring that we will now aſſign to him a ſtated ſalary and proviſion, which he thinks will " prove more honourable to himſelf and advantageous to the revenue:

" And

" And the Committee taking into ſerious conſideration the great importance of Mahomed " Reza Khawn's particular ſtation, which is that of naib dewan and prime miniſter, the " extraordinary zeal and ability he has ſhewn in the diſcharge of his office, the expediency " of maintaining him in the full influence due to his rank, and the benefit to the revenue " that will accrue from cutting off all ſecret advantages and perquiſites, which ſo evidently " open a door to manifold acts of fraud and oppreſſion :

" Reſolved, That in lieu of all perquiſites and emoluments hitherto received by Mahomed " Reza Khawn, and the other miniſters, agreeably to the cuſtom of the country, there ſhall " in future be aſſigned for their maintenance and ſupport, an annual ſalary of twelve lacks of " rupees, the ſame to be deducted from the monthly collections, and divided between Maho- " med Reza Khawn, Roy Dullub, and Shitabroy, in ſuch manner and in ſuch proportions, " as ſhall be ſettled by the Right Honourable the Preſident and them, payment to commence " on the laſt day of January next."

Read, Part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council at Fort William, in Bengal, dated the 10th December 1767; at which were preſent Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Preſident; John Cartier, Richard Becher, Claud Ruſſell, William Alderſey, Charles Floyer, and Alexander Campbell, Eſquires: alſo part of the proceedings of a Select Committee, held the 11th December 1767, at which were preſent Mr. Verelſt, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Becher, and Mr. Campbell, viz.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Richard Smith, to the Select Committee, dated at Illahabad, the 24 November 1767.

" The nature of the intelligence tranſmitted from Calcutta, by Shujah Dowla's vaqueel, " is without limits. The Nabob is almoſt as fully acquainted with the parliamentary pro- " ceedings concerning the Company's affairs as I am. How far the importance and dignity " of the Company, and the weight and influence of the adminiſtration, is leſſened in his eſteem " by this communication, may be eaſily conceived. Whilſt a vaqueel is ſo ready and ſo ſure " a channel to communicate intelligence, few men will be found ſo hardy as to maintain a " direct correſpondence with the Nabob; but there is a man who has obliquely offered ſo " great an inſult to our Preſident, that was I preſent at the Board, I would move for the exer- " tion of our authority to the utmoſt extent, to free the ſettlement from ſo dangerous an inha- " bitant—I mean Mr. Bolts, and the incloſed copy of a letter (the original in my poſſeſſion) " to Mr. Gentil, reſiding in Sujah Dowla's court, wherein he aſſerts an abſolute falſehood, " which tends to leſſen that eſſential dignity and neceſſary influence of our Preſident, is ſurely " deſerving of your ſevereſt reſentment. Nor is this the only letter he wrote; for the Nabob " acquainted a perſon of undoubted honour, that Mr. Bolts had wrote the ſame to Meer Meſ- " ſalah (formerly phyſician and confidant of Coſſim Aly) from whom the Nabob heard it. " Hereafter I may lay before you other proofs of the extent of the intelligence communicated " through the vaqueel."

Letter to Mr. Gentil.

" Dear Sir,

" It is a long time ſince I heard from you, which has made me a little uneaſy. I have long " intended to come from hence to have the pleaſure of ſeeing you, as alſo to pay my reſpects " to the Nabob, but my affairs have not as yet permitted me; nevertheleſs, it is what I hope " to be able to do in a ſhort time.

" In regard to the ſalt petre, I hope the diſputes on that ſubject are ended, but it is not " poſſible for me to abandon my right for the advantage of other Gentlemen, who have no " other pretenſions than what are founded on injuſtice, and who would take the advantage " of my abſence for to deprive me of the advantage of my contracts, which have exiſted " a long time, and which were drawn out with all propriety and juſtice, conformable to the " cuſtoms of merchants. If that had been for the Nabob, it would have been another thing. " But before I give up the point to Gentlemen who are not in any way my ſuperiors, I aſſure " you, I will follow the affair to the laſt court of juſtice, where I can have recourſe. Next " year I will give over all further commerce, but in the mean time, I hope you will help me " with your aſſiſtance. My gomaſtah Goaldaſs writes me you had informed him, that Colo- " nel Barker had wrote letters to ſtop all my buſineſs, and to drive away my people; I ſhall be " obliged to you for your information on that ſubject, for that Gentleman is not authoriſed " to act in ſuch a manner.

" I have taken the liberty to ſend you a letter for Cogee Rafael; I beg you will deliver it " to him and ſend me his anſwer. I am ſurpriſed the Nabob has not as yet paid (as they " write me) the amount of the broad cloth which my people ſold him; if that is true, be " ſo good as to repreſent the ſame to him. Melcomb writes me, that he alſo has ſent ſome " cloth from Dacca to the Nabob's camp: I do not doubt of your favourable aſſiſtance for " the ſale. I ſhall be very glad when you give me an opportunity of rendering you any " ſervice here in return for the trouble I have given you. I ſhall never be convinced of your " friendſhip, unleſs you give me ſome opportunity or other of teſtifying mine; but you, " who are a naib ſubah, and immerged in buſineſs, are perhaps above theſe triſles. Let it " be as it will; I aſſure you, my dear Sir, that nobody wiſhes you better than I do.

" I have wrote a letter to the Nabob, to whom I beg you will give my humble reſpects. " There is arrived an Engliſh Europe ſhip, and another French one. The affairs of our Com- " pany are in great agitation, and are laid before the King and Parliament of England, and

" according

" according to the letters I have received, there is a great likelihood that my aſſociate Mr. " Johnſtone will come out Governor from the King. I ſhall be glad from time to time to " hear from you, who am with a moſt perfect eſteem, dear Sir,

" Calcutta, Your moſt humble ſervant,

" the 19th June 1767. WILLIAM BOLTS.

" P. S. I need not recommend Mahomed Aſhruff Cawn to your notice."

Copy of the Preſident, Mr. Verelſt's Minute, on Conſultation, the 10 December 1767.

" The Preſident acquaints the Board, that he ſome time ſince received information of the " improper correſpondence carried on by Mr. Bolts, with Shujah al Dowla, Mr. Gentil, " and many other perſons; that he deſired a gentleman reſiding up the country to endeavour " to procure a particular letter written by Mr. Bolts, which he effected, and delivered the " letter to Colonel Smith, who incloſed the ſame to the Committee; that he can aſſert from " undoubted authority, that Mr. Bolts continues his correſpondence with perſons reſiding at " the courts of the country princes, and with his Armenian agents, endeavouring by falſe " reports and repreſentations to leſſen the reſpect due to the preſent adminiſtration, and to " deſtroy the harmony and confidence ſubſiſting between us and the powers of Hindoſtan.

" The Preſident is further informed, that Mr. Bolts has an Armenian agent at Fyſabad, " named Cogee Raphael, another at Banaras, Cogee Melcomb, and a third reſiding near " Ghazipore, by name Cogee Gregory. Through theſe people he ungratefully endeavours " to injure the intereſt of thoſe, in whoſe ſervice he raiſed an independency: and theſe Arme- " nians, under the characters of Engliſh gomaſtahs, are ſtriving to eſtabliſh themſelves in " Shujah Dowla's dominions, upon the footing they formerly were at Murſhedabad, not- " withſtanding the Nabob, on account of ſome mal-practices, has lately forbidden them his " preſence. The Preſident has, however, deſired his Excellency to baniſh all ſuch as are in " his country, under the pretext of being gomaſtahs to the Engliſh.

" Mr. Bolts, whilſt he was in the Company's ſervice, procured a number of duſtucks, " pretending he wanted them to paſs his goods; but he laid them by, unuſed, until his re- " ſignation of the ſervice; ſince when he has availed himſelf of them to carry on his trade " duty free. The Preſident, upon being informed of it, wrote to the miniſters, deſiring them " to iſſue orders to the chokies for ſtopping all duſtucks of a very old date; a meaſure which " he hopes will put a ſtop to ſo diſhoneſt and unlawful a proceeding.

(Signed) " HARRY VERELST."

The Committee then read a paragraph of a letter from the Select Committee at Calcutta, of the 22d December 1767, to Colonel Richard Smith, in anſwer to his letter of the 24th November; as follows:

" We much approve of the information you have ſent us regarding Mr. Bolts's conduct in " the carrying on a correſpondence with Mr. Gentil, at the court of Shujah Dowla, and " have laid the ſame before the Council, whoſe ſentiments, as well as ours, we with pleaſure " obſerve, entirely concur with thoſe you have expreſſed on that ſubject. We requeſt you " will uſe your endeavours with the Nabob to remove Mr. Bolts's gomaſtahs from his domi- " nions."

The Committee then read the tranſlations of ſeveral Perſian letters, written or received by Mr. Verelſt, to or from the rajahs or nabobs of the country, as ſtated on the records of the Company, together with ſeveral other letters; as follow:

Read, a letter written by Mr. Verelſt on the 19 February 1768, to Rajah Bulwantſing, marked B. N° 12.

" I cannot help being aſtoniſhed to find, from Colonel Smith's letters, that duſtucks and " purwannahs under the Engliſh name are current in your diſtricts, and that gomaſtahs com- " mit frequent extortions and oppreſſions under that ſanction. After the plain directions " which I gave your vakeel at Murſhedabad, I am very much ſurpriſed that you ſhould have " neglected to inform me of theſe practices. I now therefore poſitively write to you that I " will neither grant myſelf, nor ſuffer others to grant, any duſtucks with the Engliſh ſeal, " for the conveyance of any goods, to any part of the Nabob Shujah al Dowla's territories, " only for ſuch neceſſaries as may be occaſionally going to the army; and I muſt further di- " rect you to tranſmit me a copy of all duſtucks for neceſſaries, the inſtant they come to " your hands, that no room for evaſion or pretence may remain. As I have frequent com- " plaints from the Nabob, Shujah al Dowla, that divers people aſſume the name of Engliſh " gomaſtahs, I therefore deſire that you would iſſue poſitive orders throughout your diſtricts " for all ſuch offenders to withdraw themſelves without delay; and you will immediately " cauſe Choajee Melcomb, and Choajee Gregore, and a Bengally named Ram Setker, to " be ſent down under confinement to Meha Rajah Shitabroy, for none of theſe people have " any title to reſidence within the territories of the Nabob Shujah al Dowla."

On a rukah.

" I am informed that Monſ. Canonge, a Frenchman, is now reſident, and carrying on a " trade in French commodities, at Mirzapore. I am aſtoniſhed that you ſhould permit " French merchandize to paſs without duties, and French gomaſtahs to reſide without " authority. I therefore write to you to ſend down the aforeſaid Frenchman, without delay, " to Patna, and levy the eſtabliſhed duties. You muſt give proper attention likewiſe, to " prevent any of your people from embezzling the effects and goods which he may leave " behind him."

Read—

Read—alſo a letter written by Mr. Verelſt, on the 27 Feb. 1768, to the Nabob, Shujah al Dowla, marked B. N°. 14.

" I am much ſurpriſed to learn from Colonel Smith, that divers people, taking the name " of Engliſh gomaſtahs, have been guilty of great violence and extortions in your Excel- " lency's country. Of this I was before entirely unacquainted, or I would have endeavoured " to have remedied it; nor has any one authority from me, nor will I in future give any, " either for trade or reſidence, in your Excellency's country. I muſt therefore make it my " particular requeſt, that ſhould any one take the Engliſh name as a ſcreen for his mal- " practices, you will immediately cauſe him to be apprehended, and ſent hither, that his " falſehood may meet with due puniſhment. You cannot oblige me more than by detecting " theſe impoſtors. I write this ſo poſitively and ſtrongly, that you may ſee how ever attentive " I am to cut off all occaſion of uneaſineſs to you."

On a rukah.

" I learn that two Armenians, named Cojah Rafael, and Cojah Eſtevan, are reſident at " Fizeabad, and carrying on a trade there. As this tribe are of a bad caſt, and their principles " only falſehood and impoſition, I requeſt that you will give them no countenance, but " cauſe theſe men to be ſpeedily apprehended and ſent hither, or iſſue your orders to Captain " Harper for that purpoſe. As there is no ſeparation between us, I doubt not you will oblige " me in this matter."

Read—alſo the tranſlation of an extract from an original letter in the Bengal language, from the ſaid Ramſunker to Mr. Bolts, as produced by him, dated the 17 March 1768; which was proved by Mr. Bolts; viz.

Extract of a Letter from Ramſoncore, dated at Chowſah, the 17th March 1768; to William Bolts.

" What ſhall I write you of the news from Banaras? I have received a letter from the " perſon I left at Banaras, dated the ſecond Choytro; he has wrote to me, that a purwannah " has come from the Governor of Calcutta, upon the rajah; ordering him to confine under " a guard, whatſoever people of Mr. Bolts's are in thoſe parts, and ſend them to Calcutta. " On this account, on the firſt Choytro, a peon of the rajah's came to demand Cogee Mel- " comb and me; upon his not finding me there, he took Cogee Melcomb and confined him. " They were ſeizing my people who are there, and going to carry them away; but Mr. " Jekyll, and Mr. Alexander's gomaſtah, named Soobharam Paulit, who was there, ſaid, " theſe people can give no account of affairs, they are only here to watch the warehouſe; " upon hearing of which, they then deſiſted. After hearing what paſſed afterwards, I ſhall " write you the news. If I go to Banaras, they will certainly confine me under a guard; and " if I am ſtigmatized, all outſtanding debts, wherever they lie, will vaniſh. I therefore " deſire you will procure and ſend a purwannah from the Governor there, upon the rajah, " that I may remain at Banaras for one month, ſettle all outſtanding affairs, and come away. " If this is not done, there will be great difficulties. I am your ſervant; what was requiſite " I have ſet forth. You are maſter; whatever is proper, do it quickly. If they carry me " away under the confinement of a guard, it is matter of no ſhame to me; for I have not " beat any body, neither have I robbed any body, that I ſhould fear to go to Banaras: but if " I go, and, with or without juſtice, am put into confinement, and ſent to Calcutta, your " buſineſs will ſuffer much, and there will be loſſes. Underſtanding this, you will pleaſe " ſoon to furniſh the neceſſary."

Read—alſo a Perſian letter from Captain Gabriel Harper; the tranſlation of which was proved by Gonyſhamdaſs; as follows:

Tranſlation from the Perſian, of an original Order, under the Hand and Seal of Captain Gabriel Harper, at Feyſabad, upon the ſending Cogee Johannes Padre Rafael Priſoner, under a Guard of Sepoys, to Colonel Sir Robert Barker, at Illahabad.

Directed " to Rafael," ſealed, " Captain Gabriel Harper."

" Truſty, among friends, greeting.—I have received and am acquainted with the purport " of your letter about your going—ſend your neceſſaries to ſuch place as you think beſt; " and if you yourſelf are ready for going, it is neceſſary that to-morrow morning, two hours " before day-light, you mount and come to me, under charge of Colonel Barker's Sepoys, " that I may ſend you to Illahabad.—Thoſe, appointed Sepoys only for this, are ſtaying " with impatience in this place, that they may deliver you to the Colonel, with themſelves. " What more ſhall I write? (Signed)

" Gabriel Harper."

Read—alſo a letter from the Rajah Bulwantſing, to Mr. Verelſt, received the 22d March 1768, in anſwer to his of the 19th, marked C. N° 98.

" After acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Verelſt's letter, (B. N° 12.) your ſervant is " always devoted to your high will and pleaſure. Cojah Melcomb, who was in Banaras, is " apprehended, agreeable to your commands. People are already ſent to ſeize upon Monſieur " Canonje, in Mirzapore. Cojah Melcomb declares that Cojah Gregore has been ſome " time gone to Patna. I have ſent proper people in queſt of Senker Churrn, who I hear is " in the diſtricts of Ghazepore, and I will immediately diſperſe the purwannahs you have " commanded throughout all my dependencies. Hereafter the particulars ſhall be duly re- " preſented."

Upon a rukah.

" It was ſignified that Monſ. Canonje is reſident at Mirzapore, for the ſale of French " merchandize, and carries on a trade there, and that your ſervant permits goods to paſs " without duties, and French gomaſtahs to reſide without authority. The truth is this, " your ſervant detained four French boats for the ſpace of two months, but a duſtuck arriving " at that time from the Vizier Shujah al Dowlah, forbidding any interruption to be offered " them, I ſuffered them to proceed. Now your ſervant will execute your orders."

Read—alſo a letter written by Mr. Verelſt on the 27 March 1768, to the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah, marked C. N° 28.

" It is with the greateſt ſurpriſe I learn from certain intelligence, that Mr. Bolts has " procured from Fyzeabad, copies of a number of letters I wrote your Excellency. This " matter is of the moſt ſerious moment, and plainly proves there are ſome traitors about " your perſon who diſcover the ſecrets they are intruſted with. As you may certainly depend " upon this, I particularly deſire you will make ſtrict enquiry into the affair, and puniſh the " offenders in the moſt exemplary manner—ſeeing if a perſon of ſo little conſequence as Mr. " Bolts can thus penetrate into the ſecrets of your correſpondence, how much more eaſy can " it be for men of ſuperior influence and importance to do the ſame? I again recommend this " matter to your ſerious attention, and, as a guide to your enquiry, have ſome reaſon to be- " lieve that Meer Muſhallah and the Armenians have been the chief inſtrument in effecting " this."

Read—alſo a letter written by Mr. Verelſt on the 27 March 1768, to the Rajah Bulwantſing, marked C. N° 31.

" I am lately informed that you have ſtopped ſeveral boats, even with military ſtores, " though they had Engliſh duſtucks, and have demanded duties from the merchants ſelling " diamonds, to Mr. Chammier, though he has the Nabob's purwannah to exempt him there- " from. A reſpect to the Engliſh ſeal is due from you on all occaſions, and whenever there- " fore any duſtucks ſhall come, you will paſs the boats without delay, and ſend a copy of " the duſtuck to me, and I will take care no abuſe is made. The Nabob has a right to your " obedience in every thing, and it is therefore a high offence to act in contradiction to his " commands. You will therefore abſtain from ſuch behaviour, and pay a due regard to all " his orders in future."

Read—a letter produced by Mr. Bolts, as written by him to Mr. Verelſt, dated the 30 March 1768; viz.

" The extraordinary intelligence which I have lately received from Oud, Illahabad, and " Banaras, puts me to the neceſſity of troubling you with this letter addreſſed to you in your " public character.

" I am informed from the beſt authority and moſt ſubſtantial proofs, that Shujah al Dow- " lah and Bulwantſing have ſeized and confined a number of people under the denomination " of Mr. Bolts's agents and gomaſtahs, not for any cauſe of complaint they have againſt " them, but ſolely, as they declare they do it by virtue of orders received from Calcutta.

" The conſequence thereof is, that many people, who have all of them no other fault than " that of having formerly ſerved me, have been confined and ill treated, ſome who are mer- " chants and inhabitants of that country, on their own account; many that are now in the " ſervice of other merchants and Engliſh Gentlemen, and ſome few who are actually my " gomaſtahs, and have charge of the recovery (and that only) of my outſtanding debts, " amounting to about one hundred and fifty thouſand rupees. The concerns of other " Gentlemen, and thoſe of the Merchants themſelves, who are thus innocently oppreſſed " in conſequence of theſe orders, muſt amount to a much more conſiderable ſum.

" As thoſe who execute them diſavow theſe unheard-of acts, which would even diſgrace a " Mooriſh government, I am as yet willing to imagine it muſt have been occaſioned by their " miſconſtruction of the orders given from hence.

" If any act of government had made it neceſſary to ſeize and bring down all Engliſh " gomaſtahs indiſcriminately, from the dominions of Shujah al Dowlah, I ſhould have no " reaſon to wonder at, or remonſtrate to, the proceedings againſt thoſe who are really my " gomaſtahs; while there would yet be reaſon for ſurpriſe at the ſeizing thoſe who are not ſo, " and independent merchants.

" But while your own gomaſtahs for diamonds, and others for ſalt petre, opium, &c. " who call themſelves gomaſtahs of Colonels Smith and Barker, with thoſe of Meſſrs. " Rumbold, Ruſſell, Alexander, Floyer, Maddiſon, Chamier, and many others, both civil " and military Gentlemen, are not only permitted, but protected, even with force, in " carrying on their trade in thoſe parts; the thus ſingling out mine, with extraordinary acts " of ſeverity, would ſeem to imply, that they have been guilty of ſome extraordinary faults " to deſerve it.

" If therefore my gomaſtahs have been guilty of any miſbehaviour to deſerve ſuch ſevere " orders being iſſued from hence, I requeſt you will pleaſe to acquaint me therewith, and " who are the tranſgreſſors, that I may immediately diſmiſs them, and appoint others in their " room, to ſuperintend the collection of my balances outſtanding.

" But if it be only a miſunderſtanding (on the part of Shujah al Dowla and Bulwantſing) " of the orders which have been ſent from hence, I requeſt a letter to both thoſe princes, " that thoſe who are my gomaſtahs may have the ſame protection as yours, and thoſe of the

" before-

" before-mentioned gentlemen, or of other ſubjects, and my property be equally as ſecure: " and, in the mean time, ſo well am I perſuaded of their good behaviour, that I will be an- " ſwerable (and even, if required, enter into a bond) for the good conduct of all ſuch as are " mine, not only for any their acts of tranſgreſſion of the laws of Great Britain, but of thoſe " of the country government alſo; which, as it appears to me all that can be required, I " hope will be ſatisfactory.

" In the mean time, whatever may have been the orders from hence, as I am very appre- " henſive they may have been occaſioned by the miſrepreſentations which may have been " made to you by the gentlemen competitors for the ſalt petre trade, particularly by Mr. " Robert Maddiſon, and his agent, Mr. John Chamier, the former of whom, during his " viſit to Shujah al Dowlah's court, has been trying every method (in conſequence of the in- " fluence gained over Shujah al Dowlah, by his poſt in the munſykhaneh) to engroſs as " much as poſſible of the ſalt petre made in that Prince's dominions, it may not be amiſs to " give you information of the real ſtate of my concerns.

" Having, during my ſtay at Banaras, perceived, from the aptitude of that country to " produce ſalt petre, that great improvements might be there made in that branch; I ap- " plied myſelf with ſome attention to the cultivation of it, and with ſuch ſucceſs as ſoon " made it the object of men more powerful than myſelf. After my quitting Banaras, diſ- " putes ſo n aroſe among the competitors, whereby I became a very great loſer, notwith- " ſtanding I was the only perſon who ſatisfied the country government for their duties. Ag- " grieved by thoſe proceedings, I addreſſed myſelf to Colonel Smith, in a letter ſo long ago " as the 13th May 1767, to which however I never received any anſwer, owing, as I have " reaſon to believe, from what I have ſince diſcovered, to his being a party concerned, who " could not give me redreſs without injuring his own concerns.

" This ſalt petre concern was one of thoſe of which I formerly gave an account to the " Select Committee. In the mean time foreſeeing, from the behaviour of the different " gomaſtahs, that the intereſt of the country, and of the Company, would be greatly in- " jured by their quarrels, and apprehenſive that they would in the end occaſion complaints " from Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwantſing, of the ſame pernicious nature as thoſe formerly " made by Coſſim Ally Khawn, and thereby make it neceſſary for our government at Calcutta " to withdraw all gomaſtahs from thoſe quarters: I ſay, apprehenſive of thoſe evils, and " forced by other oppreſſions, of which I ſhall hereafter in due time take notice, I thought " it beſt to withdraw my ſaid ſalt petre concerns.

" And accordingly I have totally deſiſted from the proſecution of that branch for many " months paſt; my ſaid gomaſtahs having only charge of the recovery of the outſtanding " debts ariſen on laſt year's tranſactions.

" All the reſt of my other concerns likewiſe conſiſt in outſtanding debts ariſen on the ſales " of the Company's outcry goods, exported from Calcutta before I reſigned the ſervice, ſo " that my gomaſtahs there have not at preſent charge of any purchaſes or ſales whatever.

" Moreover, I have the moſt authentic proofs in my hands, that during the abovefaid " tranſactions, the King, the Nabob Sujah al Dowlah, and the Rajah Bulwantſing, were " perfectly ſatisfied with my carrying on the ſaid trade, being alſo ſatisfied for their duties; " which makes it needleſs for me to ſpeak to the right I had in common with others, either " in the light of a country merchant, a Company's ſervant, or other ſubject reſiding under " the Britiſh government.

" So that it is hard even to gueſs what juſt reaſons can be alledged for the preſent im- " priſonment of people, under the denomination only of my gomaſtahs, by virtue of orders " from hence, unleſs, as aforeſaid, it be in conſequence of the miſrepreſentations of thoſe " Gentlemen who are ſtruggling for ſalt petre, and who (though without foundation) " apprehend that I may continue the trade this ſeaſon, and thereby hurt their concerns.

" Yet even in that caſe, as many others with me are ſo immediately concerned, and as it " is the indiſpenſable obligation of your ſtation to watch for the ſecurity of the property of " all ſubjects under the protection of the Britiſh flag in this country, I can hardly imagine " that orders would have been iſſued from hence upon the private information of any perſons, " without firſt giving notice, taking meaſures to ſecure the property of the concerned, and " fixing a certain time for transferring the buſineſs to others.

" Since it is always better to prevent, than redreſs evils, I have choſen firſt to apply to " you alone, rather than to addreſs the whole Board on ſubjects, which, if ſcrutinized, might " involve and hurt the buſineſs of many other perſons, eſpecially as you having the entire " direction of the country correſpondence, matters of this nature are beſt and moſt eaſily " redreſſed by you.

" I therefore requeſt the letters before mentioned to Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwantſing " to releaſe my gomaſtahs (and property if detained) who may be directed, if you think it " neceſſary, to come down, after four months; in which time, I am ſure, they will be able " to collect in all outſtanding balances. At the ſame time it would be equally as agreeable " to me that they ſhould come down immediately, if you can think of any method of ob- " taining for me either the immediate payment or ſecurity for the amount of my balances, " which are all good, and afford not the leaſt apprehenſion of their not being duly recovered.

" At the ſame time it appears practicable to put a ſtop to the preſent wranglings about ſalt " petre, in a manner that may be very beneficial to the Company, and at the ſame time per-

" fectly

" fectly ſatisfy the country government and their ryotts, upon a plan which I would humbly " recommend for the Company's intereſt, as follows:

" To contract with merchants for all the ſalt petre that can be made in thoſe diſtricts on " the Company's account, the ſaid contractors ſatisfying the princes of the country for their " duties, and alſo reſerving for them ſuch a quantity as they might require for the uſe of " their own houſeholds, and the conſumption of their own countries.

" I will engage to find very reſponſible merchants who will undertake to execute ſuch a " plan, and engage to deliver, on the Company's account at Patna, for the firſt year 25,000 " maunds of refined petre, which ſhall be near three times finer than that they have generally " received from Patna, at a price to be hereafter ſtipulated; upon which the Company might " be ſure of gaining at leaſt fifteen thouſand pounds ſterling per annum clear, if they were " even to ſell it again in Bengal.

" Other advantages, which would likewiſe accrue from ſuch a plan, are obvious; the " foreign companies might be ſupplied with their allowances from this petre, and our Com- " pany be thereby freed from thoſe large drawbacks on that branch of their trade. And it " would alſo prevent the French or Dutch from manufacturing it themſelves in thoſe parts, " which they will certainly attempt whenever the Engliſh gomaſtahs are totally recalled. At " the ſame time it muſt be remembered, that though the gomaſtahs of private Gentlemen " be all recalled; yet while our armies continue in thoſe parts, there is a great riſque, that, " however ſtrict the orders of the Board be, ſome or other Gentlemen of influence with the " army will find means to evade them, and to engroſs the whole of this article in conſe- " quence of their influence over, and the ignorance and fears of, the country Princes; " that it does not appear poſſible ſo advantageouſly to obviate the evils apprehended by any " other than this plan, which I have ſubmitted to your conſideration.

" I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

(Signed) " WILLIAM BOLTS."

Read—alſo an original letter, dated the 31ſt March 1768, from Mr. Verelſt to Mr. Bolts, in anſwer to the foregoing; viz.

" To Mr. William Bolts.

" Sir, I have received your letter of the 30th inſtant, and am to acquaint you that I know " of no orders for impeding the buſineſs of your gomaſtahs in particular, in the dominions of " Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwantſing. Repeated complaints have been received from thoſe " two Princes of the oppreſſive conduct of gomaſtahs taking the Engliſh name, and carrying " on trade in their countries. The Honourable Company have been pleaſed to expreſs their " orders for the poſitive prohibition to their ſervants of all trade whatever in thoſe provinces, " and the Preſidency of Fort William have reſolved to put a ſtop to it in future, by a recall " of all ſuch gomaſtahs. How far, or by what right, your gomaſtahs can be allowed to " continue there after the time already allotted you for the adjuſtment of your concerns, muſt " be determined by the government here. I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" March 31ſt, 1768. (Signed) " H. VERELST."

Read—alſo copy of a letter from Mr. Bolts to Mr. Verelſt, dated the 2d April 1768; as follows:

" To Hary Verelſt, Eſquire,

" Preſident and Governor of Fort William.

" Sir, I received yeſterday your favour of the 31ſt, in anſwer to mine of the 30th paſt, " acquainting me of your ignorance of any orders having been given reſpecting my gomaſtahs " in particular.

" You muſt therefore, I fear, have been groſsly abuſed by thoſe who penned the Perſian " letters from hence; for, by authentic copies of them, which I have this moment received " from Oud, my gomaſtahs are particularly mentioned by name.

" I cannot perceive upon what principle the government here can undertake to determine " what time ſhall be allowed me for the adjuſtment of my concerns in thoſe parts; however, " as I have already ſaid as much, I ſhall, without diſcuſſing that point, willingly ſubmit, as " others do, to every general order; and, as it is your opinion that the time to be allotted " muſt be determined by the government here, I requeſt you will inform me of their deter- " mination, after acquainting them with the circumſtances I have laid before you, that I " may know what to do.

" In the mean time I apply to you in the character of an injured complaining ſubject, and " requeſt letters to the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah, and to the Rajah Bulwantſing, incloſing to " them an arzdaſht of my complaints, of which the following is the purport.

" That Mr. William Bolts having had certain mercantile tranſactions in your dominions, " as he repreſents with your permiſſion, by virtue of purwannahs given by you, and in " conſequence of duties paid, which buſineſs he avers has been tranſacted by his gomaſtahs " in the moſt peaceful manner, and according to the cuſtom of thoſe countries; on which " tranſactions, large outſtanding balances have ariſen, to the amount of one hundred and " fifty thouſand rupees. That notwithſtanding this, the gomaſtahs of him, the ſaid Wil- " liam Bolts, have been lately ſeized and impriſoned, in a ſudden manner, without any cauſe

" or

" or complaint being alledged, that he William Bolts can diſcover; while, at the ſame time, " the agents and gomaſtahs of Governor Verelſt, Colonel Smith, Mr. Ruſſell, Mr. Alex- " ander, Mr. Rumbold, and many other Britiſh ſubjects, are unmoleſtedly permitted to " tranſact their conſtituents affairs. That Mr. William Bolts, living under Britiſh protec- " tion, is intitled to every privilege others are intitled to: that, therefore, it is required, that " thoſe his gomaſtahs be releaſed, and allowed the ſame protection, and for the ſame ſpace " of time, as may be allowed to the gomaſtahs of the aforeſaid gentlemen, and that ſatisfac- " tion be made to him and them, in caſe it be proved that they have been unjuſtly impriſoned, " not only in violation of the treaties ſubſiſting between you and the Engliſh, but alſo againſt " the laws of Hindoſtan, and of nations in general.

" At the ſame time, Sir, ſhould it be inſiſted that they have merited this treatment, I " requeſt they may be ſummoned, after a moderate time to be allowed me, before the Board " of Calcutta, to have the ſame enquired into. But ſhould they be enquired into upon the " ſpot, I requeſt you will order the enquiry to be poſtponed, until either I myſelf can arrive " there, and be preſent, or appoint others.

" I obſerve, Sir, what you inform me, that the Honourable Company have been pleaſed " to prohibit all trade whatever in thoſe provinces, and that the Preſidency of Calcutta have " reſolved to put a ſtop to it in future, by a recall of all ſuch gomaſtahs. It is the firſt time I " ever heard of it, nor had I the leaſt conception of it, knowing that even lately you was " pleaſed to give a letter to the Rajah Bulwantſing, in favour of Mr. Alexander's buſineſs " there; however, ſuch a prohibition of trade would not affect me; for as I have before " acquainted you, I have nothing depending there but the collection of outſtanding debts.

" I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" Calcutta, the 2d April 1768. (Signed) " WILLIAM BOLTS."

Read—alſo a letter from the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah to Mr. Verelſt, as received by him the 3d April 1768, marked C. N° 118, viz.

" I received your friendly letter by the hands of Captain Harper, and was rejoiced thereby: " it is plain that my friendſhip with the Engliſh ſerdars, and particularly with your Excel- " lency, is firm; neither does it need the common phraſes of the world to ſet it off. You " alſo have ſhewn yourſelf ſo profuſe of favours towards me, that I cannot find any expreſ- " ſions equal to my ſenſe thereof. I can only wiſh that the Almighty may give our connec- " tion daily ſtrength, and our friendſhip hourly warmth. Conſidering what you write on " the ſubject of the Armenians, as proceeding from your perfect cordiality, I am delighted " therewith: what can be more ſuitable to our intereſt than that we ſhould mutually exert " ourſelves in diſarming all ſuch as may be the abettors or authors of evil? In the affair of " the ſalt petre, which was the firſt, every inquietude was removed, and every thorn ex- " tracted at once, by even a momentary adverſion of your Excellency's regard. And now " that you have written concerning Rafael and Eſtevan, that matter is done. As they have " ſome outſtanding debts incurred in the courſe of their buſineſs here, they petitioned ear- " neſtly for two or three days reſpite to ſettle their accounts. After that they will no more " preſume to reſide here. Rajah Bulwantſing has acquainted me with your Excellency's or- " ders about the Armenians in thoſe diſtricts, and I have inſtructed him to pay implicit obe- " dience to what you ſhall ſignify on the occaſion, as whatever is agreeable to you, cannot " fail of being ſatisfactory to me.—For the reſt, conſider me as one ſolicitous after your wel- " fare, and favour me with frequent accounts thereof."

Read—alſo the following letter from Mr. Bolts to Mr. Verelſt, viz.

" To Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor of Fort William.

" Sir, As ſome days have elapſed, and I have not been favoured with an anſwer to my " laſt letter, which it is of the greateſt conſequence for me to have as ſoon as poſſible, to en- " able me to take the neceſſary meaſures for the ſecurity of my property, I requeſt you will " be pleaſed to acquaint me what you have determined thereupon. I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" Calcutta, 7th April 1768. (Signed) " WILLIAM BOLTS."

Read—the following original letter from Mr. Verelſt.

" To Mr. William Bolts.

" Sir, I have your letters of the 2d and 7th inſtant, and am again to repeat to you, that " the reſolutions taken, and the orders given, for recalling the Engliſh gomaſtahs in the do- " minions of Shujah al Dowlah and Bulwantſing, were general, not particular; but that as " the names of ſuch perſons came to my knowledge, it became neceſſary to point them out.

" I am alſo to acquaint you, that letters have been written, deſiring that the gomaſtahs may " be allowed to collect in their conſtituents outſtanding balances; what time may be deemed " proper for that purpoſe, will be determined by the Committee, which would have been done " before now, had not my indiſpoſition prevented my having a meeting with the Gentlemen.

" I am, Sir,

" Fort William, " Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" April 9th 1768. (Signed) " H. VERELST."

Read—the following letters to and from Mr. Bolts; viz.

" To Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor of Fort William.

" Sir, The laſt letter you was pleaſed to ſend me yeſterday, neither affords the anſwer " which I flattered myſelf I ſhould receive to mine, nor redreſs of the grievances I com- " plained of. The people I have wrote to you about, have been ſent down under confinement " to Shitabroy, the Company's collector at Patna, who has kept them under confinement.

" In conſequence of your laſt letter, I have ordered them back to their ſtations, but in the " mean time, as that is not ſufficient, I muſt requeſt immediately three letters: one to Shi- " tabroy to releaſe them, one to Rajah Bulwantſing, and one to the Nabob Shujah al " Dowlah, at leaſt to acquaint them of my people's being ordered back, to continue upon " the ſame terms as other Engliſh agents. I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" Calcutta, 11th April 1768. (Signed) " WILLIAM BOLTS."

" To Mr. John Knott.

" Sir, As the multiplicity of affairs upon Mr. Verelſt's hands may make him forget the " letter I wrote him the 11th inſtant on the ſubject of my impriſoned agents, and to avoid " continually troubling him on that ſubject, I requeſt you will on the firſt vacant moment " put him in mind of it, that I may receive the Perſian letters in time, to prevent many un- " expected and diſagreeable conſequences. If you find I am not to expect thoſe Perſian " letters, a note ſignifying Mr. Verelſt's refuſal will be ſufficient; and an anſwer procured, " (if poſſible, to-day) either in the affirmative or negative, will be eſteemed a favour by,

" Sir,

" Your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,

" Calcutta, the 13th April 1768. (Signed) " WILLIAM BOLTS."

" To Mr. William Bolts.

" Sir, This moment your letter of to-day's date is preſented me, the purport of which " rendering it neceſſary to be communicated to Mr. Verelſt, he deſires me to let you know " that your ſeveral late letters to him (on the ſubject of your preſent addreſs to me) as well " as his anſwers thereto, having been laid before the Select Committee, you will receive " their ſentiments thereon from the ſecretary to that department. I am, Sir,

" Wedneſday noon, " Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" 13th April 1768. (Signed) " JOHN KNOTT."

" To Charles Floyer, Eſquire. Secretary to the Select Committee at Fort William.

" Sir, Having lately wrote to Mr. Verelſt ſeveral letters regarding his having ordered into " confinement ſundry perſons and merchants, who are my agents and gomaſtahs, who, in " conſequence of thoſe orders, have been ſeized in the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah's dominions " in a ſudden manner, by force, plundered, impriſoned, and ſent down under confinement " to Shitabroy, the Company's collector at Patna, who has there received them as priſoners, " and continued them under confinement, whereby I am likely to be a loſer of one hundred and " fifty thouſand rupees, excluſive of the loſs accruing to thoſe injured perſons in particular; " in anſwer to thoſe my applications, I am now referred to the Secretary of the Select Com- " mittee for their determination thereupon. I therefore apply to you, and requeſt you will " pleaſe to ſend me, without loſs of time, a copy of ſuch proceedings as concern me, particu- " larly mentioning the members preſent at this tranſaction. As one hour's delay may be of " the moſt ruinous conſequence to my affairs, I hope you will excuſe my earneſtneſs.

" I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" Calcutta, 13th April 1768. (Signed) " WILLIAM BOLTS."

" To Mr. William Bolts.

" Sir, The opinion of the Select Committee on the ſubject of your letters to the Go- " vernor, ſhall be made known to you as expeditiouſly as may be in my power to tranſmit it " to you. I am, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" 13th April 1768. (Signed) " CHARLES FLOYER."

A Letter from Mr. Verelſt to the Rajah Bulwantſing, written on the 14 April 1768, marked C. N° 32. viz.

" The Nabob Shujah al Dowlah had ſo frequently and ſtrongly complained of European " gomaſtahs reſiding in his territories, and particularly within your juriſdiction, that I could " not refuſe my conſent and encouragement in getting them withdrawn. My laſt letter was " therefore meant to cut off, if poſſible, all future cauſes of complaint againſt our gomaſtahs, " and to quiet the uneaſineſs of our ally the Nabob, by my zeal for the caſe and happineſs " of his country. You had made particular objections to the conduct of Monſ. Canonge be- " fore, but it aſtoniſhes me to hear the rigour with which you have treated him, in hurrying " him away without a moment's reſpite to ſettle his concerns. Monſ. Chevalier, the French " governor, has himſelf large concerns in Monſ. Canonge's hands, which are now at ſtake, " and he has given me ſuch an account of your ſeizing, impriſoning, and mal-treating him, " that I cannot conceive any provocations could juſtify, or any conſequences ariſe from it,

" but

" but enormous loſſes of private property without benefit to the country. I muſt therefore " deſire of you to purſue theſe matters with another temper, and more moderation; and as " Mr. Chevalier has engaged himſelf reſponſible for Monſ. Canonge removing all future " dealings in that country, and Monſ. Canonge has given proteſtations to the ſame purpoſe " himſelf, you will grant him a month's indulgence for the adjuſtment of his former con- " cerns, ſeeing he is to contract no new engagements during that time. I am further in- " formed that you are collecting duties upon all goods which have been formerly tranſported " into your diſtricts; I really can ſee no reaſon for this, unleſs you mean to make uſe of " public pretences for your private emolument; and, as I wiſh rather to ſerve our ally Shu- " jah al Dowlah really and eſſentially, than gratify private intereſt or private paſſions, I " deſire you will deſiſt from this practice in future, and facilitate, as much as in your power, " the concluſion of concerns now exiſting, and no more exact duties on goods either bought " or ſold in your diſtricts before this time."

Your Committee then read part of the proceedings of a Select Committe held at Fort William in Bengal, on the 15th April 1768, at which were preſent Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Preſident, John Cartier, Richard Becher, and Charles Floyer, Eſquires; viz.

The Preſident lays before the Committee the late correſpondence between him and Mr. William Bolts, on the ſubject of the latter's concerns in the countries of Shujah Dowlah and Bulwantſing, and requeſts that the two following paragraphs of Mr. Bolts's letter to him, under date the 2d inſtant, may be recorded upon theſe proceedings, as in one of them he acknowledges what the Preſident has long ſince had intimation of, his carrying on a corre- ſpondence with the princes and others of the country; a circumſtance which he, the Preſi- dent, deems highly detrimental to the intereſt of our honourable employers, and an abſo- lute defiance of their orders.

Extract of a letter from Mr. William Bolts to the Preſident, dated the 2d April 1768.

" I received yeſterday your favour of the 31ſt, in anſwer to mine of the 30th paſt, ac- " quainting me of your ignorance of any orders having been given reſpecting my gomaſtahs " in particular.

" You muſt therefore, I fear, have been groſsly abuſed by thoſe who penned the Perſian " letters from hence; for by authentic copies of them, which I have this moment received " from Oud, my gomaſtahs are particularly mentioned by name."

The Preſident alſo acquaints the Board, that in his reply to Mr. Bolts's laſt letter to him, he referred him to the reſolutions of the Select Committee, before whom he propoſed to lay his correſpondence for their conſideration; in conſequence whereof the ſecretary received two letters from Mr. Bolts, dated the 13th and 14th inſtant, which are now produced and read. The ſecretary begs leave to obſerve, that the laſt letter he received was in reply to one he wrote to Mr. Bolts, aſſuring him that as ſoon as the Committee came to any reſolution concerning him, he ſhould be made acquainted therewith.

Ordered, That the two letters from Mr. Bolts be entered after the proceedings, and that the following letter be wrote to him from our ſecretary.

" To Mr. William Bolts.

" Sir, I am directed by the Select Committee to inform you, that they, nor the Preſident, " know of no orders for the confinement of any of your gomaſtahs. That repreſentations " from Shujah Dowlah and Bulwantſing have made it neceſſary for the Committee to deter- " mine on the recall of all gomaſtahs taking upon them the Engliſh name in their countries. " That they think you have no right to call upon them on this occaſion, having long ſince " had the uſual time allowed you for the adjuſtment of all your concerns, having already been " ordered to leave the country, and adviſed that no further protection would be given you.

" The Committee are therefore determined not to interfere, or in any ſhape charge them- " ſelves with any of your concerns. I have laid before them your letters to me under dates " the 13th and 14th inſtant. I am, Sir,

" Fort William, " Your moſt obedient ſervant,
" 15th April 1768. (Signed) " CHARLES FLOYER,
" Secretary of the Select Committe."

Read—alſo the following letters to and from ſeveral perſons; viz.

A Letter from Shitabroy to Mr. Verelſt, received by him the 16th April, 1768, marked C. N°. 134.

" Your ſervant, with all faithfulneſs, is at no time wanting in the diſcharge of your high " commands; but may it pleaſe your Excellency, when the Nabob Mahomed Reza Cawn " was in Calcutta, and the affair of Carruchpore was taken notice of in your conferences, " your ſervant imagined you would have iſſued your gracious orders on the ſubject to him. " It is true, the affair is ſettled, but your ſervant has not been honoured with your illuſtrious " letter concerning it. For ſome days there have been two officers ſtationed, one at Monor, " on the Dewah, the other at Choufah, for the examination of Engliſh boats and the " duſtucks of the Company; and the Colonel informed me that your Excellency's orders had " been ſignified to your ſervant for the ſtationing deputies, on the part of the Government, in " the ſame places; but your ſervant made anſwer, that your orders on that head had not " reached him. Thirdly, your ſervant has received advice from Rajah Bulwantſing of your " directions for his ſeizing on the perſons of Coja Melcomb and Gregory, Armenians, and " Monſ. Canonje, a Frenchman, and conveying them down to your ſervant; neither have

" you

" honoured your ſervant with any intimation of this. As theſe three high commands, all " relative to your ſervant, have been iſſued without his receiving any direct orders from your " Excellency, ſo that he might be duly informed and ready in the execution thereof, he there- " fore humbly deſires your Excellency would appriſe him of your venerable commands, and " not ſubject him to ſuch diſagreeable alternatives in future. It is highly neceſſary for your " Excellency to incline your attention hereto."

A Letter from Mr. Verelſt to the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah, written the 26th April 1768, C. N° 34.

" I am ſorry to inform your Excellency, that in conſequence of my letters to you con- " cerning the Engliſh gomaſtahs and your orders thereupon, I find your officers have exerciſed " a ſeverity beyond what either of us intended. They have ſeized and ſent away many, " without allowing them the ſhorteſt time to adjuſt their affairs, and others, from this kind " of treatment, find it impoſſible even to receive the debts lawfully due to them. As thoſe " loſſes muſt fall heavy on many individuals, I think it but juſt to requeſt your Excellency " to indulge them with two months licence, to withdraw their effects and ſettle their affairs, " and at the ſame time give ſuch orders to the officers of your dominions, that they may lend " them all aſſiſtance for the more ſpeedy diſpatch of this matter. In the mean time, ſhould " any of them miſbehave or interfere in any thing regarding your country, I requeſt you " would order Mr. Rumbold to be made acquainted with it, as he is nearer than myſelf, and " as he is a Gentleman in whoſe juſtice I have the moſt perfect reliance, he will puniſh them " in the moſt exemplary manner. For this purpoſe he has full inſtructions from me."

A Letter from Mr. Verelſt to the Rajah Bulwantſing, written the 26th April 1768, marked C. N° 35.

" I before wrote, that the gomaſtahs of the Engliſh Gentlemen ſhould be allowed, as " before, to diſpoſe, duty free, what they had imported, or to carry away goods they might " have already provided. I now acquaint you that it is determined that they ſhall be allowed " two months from the receipt of this, for the ſettling their affairs; and I deſire you will " afford them every aſſiſtance herein, that the buſineſs may be ſpeedily brought to an iſſue. " In this interval, ſhould you have any cauſe of complaint againſt any gomaſtahs, you will " repreſent it to Mr. Rumbold at Patna, and he will give you immediate redreſs."

A Letter from Mr. Francis Hare, ſecond in Council at Patna, to Mr. Bolts, dated the 19 April 1768, which was proved by Mr. Bolts; viz.

" I have received your favour of the 10th inſtant, incloſing a letter for Ramcantoboſe, " which I immediately ſent him, acquainting him with your inſtructions relating to Mel- " comb and Gregory, though I do not ſee what effect they can have, as they cannot be " releaſed but by the power that confined them. They both left this place ſome time ago, " and muſt have arrived at the city, I think, long before this, ſo that their enlargement muſt " be obtained by you. As for me, as I was ordered to deliver them up to Shitabroy, under " pain of forfeiture of the ſervice, though not permitted to put that order in execution (for " they were ſent here priſoners by Bulwantſing) I think I cannot venture on a further ap- " plication."

" P. S. I anſwered your two favours of the 5th and 26th ult. the 4th inſtant."

A Letter under the Hand and Seal of Cogee Abraham, a very principal Merchant at the City of Murſhedabad, to Mr. Bolts, dated the 4 Zelhedge, which was proved by Mr. Rafael and tranſlated by Gonyſhamdaſs; viz.

" After the uſual compliments. I received your favourable letter, with one incloſed for " Moyeen Dowla (Mahomed Reza Khawn) and one for Rajah Dullubram, on Monday " the 30th Zilcade, at eight in the evening; and you deſire that I will learn from them and " wtite you the particulars or reaſons of Cogee Melcomb's being impriſoned. Kind Sir, I " delivered the letters to the ſaid Nabob and Rajah. The Nabob read the letter, but I have " not got an anſwer; the ſaid Cogee Melcomb has been diſpatched from up the country, in " the morning or evening he will certainly arrive. After his arrival I ſhall write to the " Committee, and will ſpeak to you conformable to the orders which I may receive from " thence. The Rajah gave for anſwer, that he knew nothing of the affair, and I myſelf am " certain that he knows nothing about it. As ſoon as I receive the Rajah's anſwer I ſhall " forward it—And when Cogee Melcomb arrives here, I ſhall not be deficient in friendſhip " towards him, and he ſhall not find trouble—I am remedileſs, I have no more in my power. " What ſhall I write more?"

Tranſlation of Part of an original Letter, under the Hand and Seal of Cogee Abraham, at Murſhedabad, dated the 10th Zilhedge, to William Bolts, proved by Gonyſhamdaſs.

" On the 8th of this month Cogee Melcomb arrived in town, and he waited on the Nabob " Moyeen al Dowlah Bahader. The ſaid Nabob ordered the coming down of Cogee Mel- " comb in the garden called Ferrahbag. He is in the ſaid garden, but is under a guard. " My Sir, it appears that the ſaid Nabob is waiting for the orders of the Committee, that he " may do according to the order whatſoever comes from thence. If Mr. Hare ſhall ſpeak in " the cauſe of his deliverance, I ſuppoſe the deliverance will appear ſoon, becauſe the ſaid " gentleman is maſter of the buſineſs. This is the ſubject which is written to you, for to " give you the knowledge of it. What ſhall I write more?"

A Letter from Mr. Bolts to Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Preſident; John Cartier, Richard Becher, James Alexander, Claud Ruſſell, William Alderſey, and Charles Floyer, Eſquires, Members of the Council for the Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies.

" Gentlemen, I have been now thirteen days waiting for an anſwer to my application to " your Board of the 18th April, regarding my impriſoned agents. They have now been " forced down to Morſhedabad, where they are alſo kept under ſtrict confinement, whereby, " excluſive of the loſſes accruing to me, not only their property and characters, but their " lives alſo are endangered. In anſwer to the applications which have been made to the Na- " bob, he ſays he is waiting for your orders from Calcutta reſpecting them.

" As they are chriſtians, men of ſubſtance, and good character, houſeholders of Calcutta, " and in every way intitled to the protection of the Britiſh laws, it is incumbent on me, in " whoſe ſervice, and on whoſe account, they innocently ſuffer thoſe evils, to repeat my repre- " ſentations to you on their behalf; at leaſt ſo far, that though they loſe their property as " well as me, they may yet eſcape with their lives, and thereby have an opportunity, by their " future induſtry, of preſerving their families from utter ruin.

" Thus far I petition on behalf of thoſe innocent and oppreſſed merchants.

" With reſpect to the redreſs which I myſelf have required, by your long ſilence on ſo " important and delicate a point, it is beyond a doubt, that you, Gentlemen, mean to avow " the proceedings of your Preſident and Select Committee, as referred to in my addreſs of the " 18th April, and to give me no redreſs: however, I requeſt the favour you will let me be " acquainted with your reſolution by letter, in the manner uſual on applications to your " Board, eſpecially as I have a right to expect ſuch a formal avowal of public reſolutions " wherein I am ſo much intereſted. I am, Gentlemen,

" Your moſt obedient ſervant,

" Calcutta, 2d May 1768. (Signed) " WILLIAM BOLTS."

Your Committee then proceeded to read part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council of Calcutta, at a conſultation held on the 4 May 1768, as follows.

" Mr. Bolts ſends in a letter repeating his repreſentations to us in behalf of his impriſoned " agents.

" Ordered, That it be entered after the conſultation.

" Colonel Smith delivers in the following minute.

" Colonel Smith having peruſed the proceedings of the Select Committee, as well as the " reſolutions of the Council, concerning Mr. Bolts, he now takes this firſt opportunity of " expreſſing in perſon to the Board thoſe ſentiments which he wrote to the Committee in " his letter of ———.

" It appears from the conſultations of the 5th November 1767, that you determined to re- " peat the former orders for Mr. Bolts to proceed to England, and that in caſe of diſobedi- " ence to thoſe orders, and contempt of your authority, that his perſon ſhould be ſeized, and " ſent home priſoner in one of the ſhips of the laſt ſeaſon.

" I have carefully examined your records, in order to diſcover if the poſterior conduct of " Mr. Bolts had been ſuch as to induce you to poſtpone or annul your former reſolution, " but I find your reſolution ſtands unrevoked and unexecuted.

" It appears alſo from the proceedings of the Select Committee, that Mr. Bolts, ever " ſince this your reſolution of the 5 November, has been correſponding with the country " powers. This correſpondence is wiſely and expreſsly prohibited to individuals by the " orders of our honourable maſters.

" If you had not already entered into a reſolution of ſending Mr. Bolts to Europe, moſt " undoubtedly I would have made ſuch a motion; but when I read an unanimous decree of " your Board for taking ſuch meaſures on this occaſion as appears abſolutely neceſſary for the " public ſervice, I cannot but conjure you, Gentlemen, to ſupport the dignity of govern- " ment, by enforcing obedience to your own reſolutions; for ſhould we ſuffer Mr. Bolts " with impunity to bid defiance to your authority, the conſequences are ſo very obvious, that " to mention them is unneceſſary. I do therefore move that the reſolution of the 5 Novem- " ber 1767, ſhall be carried into execution, and in caſe of diſobedience to your orders on " the part of Mr. Bolts, that he ſhall poſitively be ſent priſoner to Europe in the firſt ſhip " which ſhall be diſpatched from this Preſidency. Signed Richard Smith.—Fort William, " the 4 May 1768.

" The Board ſtill adhere to their former reſolution of ſending Mr. Bolts to England. It " is therefore agreed and reſolved that he ſhall be ſent to Europe, by the firſt ſhip that is " diſpatched this ſeaſon."

Read a letter from Mahomed Rheza Khawn to Mr. Verelſt, received by him the 3d May 1768, marked C. N° 146, viz.

" Acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Verelſt's letter (C. N° —) concerning Monſ. Ca- " nonge, and incloſing copies of the purwannahs ſigned by Mr. Rumbold, which the Ar- " menians ſent down by Bulwantſing, had, as gomaſtahs to Mr. Hare."

Read part of a letter from Shujah al Dowlah to Mr. Verelſt, received by him the 15th May 1768, marked C. N° 161.—viz.

Upon a rukah (or poſtſcript).

" In regard to ſecrets being betrayed, and your letters expoſed which you wrote me con-

" cerning the caſe is this, That from the firſt till now we never correſponded on any ſecret " except the affair of the Vizirate, and my being inveſted with the privileges thereof, " and upon this ſubject I have received divers of your letters; beſides this, no other ſubject " has been wrote upon; the friendly diligence you have uſed in this affair, and the frequent " correſpondences we have had on this ſubject being notorious; I do I own frequently enlarge " on your goodneſs and favour in public, on your taking ſo much trouble for your friend; " but it is impoſſible, and God forbid that the ſecrets of the Company and Council ſhould " be diſcovered, either in paſt or future; whatever letters I receive from you, after having " read them in private, I ſeal them up and keep them with all care: I do not underſtand in " what manner you have wrote me this, I have taken an obligation from Meer Muſhallah " on this matter, and have ſent it by the hands of Captain Harper, who will tranſmit it to " you. You will make due enquiries from Mr Bolts, who is with you on the ſpot, and " get the copies of the letters from him which he ſays he has in his poſſeſſion. If it is " proved on Meer Muſhallah, he ſhall be puniſhed according to the obligation I have ſent " you from him, and I have alſo given poſitive orders, that nothing concerning the affair of " the vizirate, or other matters, ſhall be made known to any one. Seeing what neceſſity is " there for others to be made acquainted, I will enforce theſe orders, and you will make the " ſtricteſt enquiries; for if Meer Muſhallah ſhall have heard any thing concerning the affair " of the vizirate which is on foot, and wrote the ſame, I will puniſh him alſo for that; what " buſineſs has he with it, and why ſhould he write about theſe things?"

Upon a rukah (or poſtſcript)

" I have juſt received intelligence, that Coſſim Ally Cawn has taken his leave of the Ro- " hillahs, and intends going to the Decan; though I don't think it practicable to get him " into our hands, yet I think he might be eaſily cut off. Caution and care is neceſſary in " ſuch caſes; for it is notorious Coſſim is a complete villain, and ſhould he go there what " diſturbances will he not raiſe? It is a proverb, that an enemy ſhould be never conſidered as " weak; whatever you ſhall write me on this ſubject, as yours and the Council's determina- " tion, I will act agreeably thereto, but a ſpeedy and determined anſwer is neceſſary."

Tranſlate of Meer Muſhallah's Obligation, ſent by Captain Harper.

" I Meer Muſhallah, finding that divers evil-minded people have reported that I ſent copies " to Mr. Bolts, of the letters which come from the Engliſh ſerdars to his Excellency the Na- " bob Vizire, (whom God long preſerve) and as I never even took a letter of the Engliſh " ſerdars in my hand, much leſs could be acquainted with the purport of them, or take co- " pies, do therefore agree, and here by theſe preſents covenant, that if this thing ſhall be " proved, that I have ſent copies of the letters of the Engliſh ſerdars to Mr. Bolts, or any " other; or if ever I diſcovered to any one, any ſecret communicated by his Excellency to " me, I ſhall be deemed guilty before his Excellency. If any letter under my ſeal appears " concerning the aforeſaid matter, let his Excellency deſtroy me and my family, and puniſh " me as a guilty perſon; and, if this is not proved, let the evil-minded be put to death, that " ſuch wicked and abominable people may take warning: I have therefore (Meer Muſhallah) " given theſe preſents as an obligation, this ninth day of Zihijah, in the year of Higiry 1187."

Read—alſo a petition of the relations of the Armenians, as addreſſed to the Governor and Council of Fort William in Bengal, dated the 15 May 1768, proved by Mr. Bolts, viz.

" To the Honourable Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor, &c. Gentle- " men of the Council at Fort William.

" Honourable Sir and Sirs,

" We the ſubſcribers to this humble addreſs, relations of Cogee Malcum Phillip, and " Cogee Gregore Cojaumaul Caulder, beg leave to repreſent to your Honours, that our ſaid " relations have, for ſix or ſeven years paſt, been conſtantly employed by different Engliſh " gentlemen in the Honourable Company's ſervice, as agents in the tranſaction of their mer- " cantile affairs, with honour and credit to themſelves, and to the ſatisfaction of their em- " ployers, without having ever interfered in any affairs of other nature than mercantile, on " the tranſaction of which they were latterly left by their conſtituents to conclude and col- " lect in their outſtanding concerns in the diſtricts of Banaras, Patna, &c. That they have " been lately ſeized by force, and have now been kept in great diſtreſs under confinement by " the Nabob and his officers, firſt at Patna, and now actually at Muxadavad, ever ſince the " thirty-firſt March paſt, without the leaſt cauſe for complaint that we can diſcover: that, " by the ſaid confinement, the priſoners are expoſed to great diſtreſs, loſs of their health or " lives, the ruination of their families, and of us your Honours, &c. humble repreſentants: " that, on applications which have been made to the Nabob for their releaſement, he refuſes " to grant it without expreſs orders from your Honour, &c. which makes us extremely " ſorry

" ſorry and apprehenſive leſt they ſhould have juſtly incurred the diſpleaſure of your Honours
" &c. In the mean time we humbly beg leave to repreſent, that ſhould they have been
" guilty of any miſdemeanors, we are ready to give ſuch ſecurity, either for money, or their
" appearance when called for, as the Nabob can juſtly require, or to your Honours may ap-
" pear reaſonable; and, as they are houſeholders of this city of Calcutta, and have long en-
" joyed the benefit of the protection of the Honourable Company, to whoſe intereſt we will
" venture to affirm they never acted contrary; we therefore humbly hope your Honours
" will pleaſe to grant an order for their releaſement, which will be a laſting obligation con-
" ferred on, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

" Your moſt faithful, and devoted ſervants,

" Mother—MARY COJAMAUL CALDER, } Of
" Wife—CATHARINE GREGORY } COGEE
" Brother—ZACHARIAH COJAMAUL CALDER } GREGORY.
Uncle—AVIATT MARCAR } Of
" Relations { AVIATT CALDER, ARRATOON CALDER } COGEE MELCOMB."

" Calcutta, the 15th May 1768."

The Committee then read a proteſt on the part of Mr. Bolts againſt the Governor and Council of Calcutta, for all loſſes and damages conſequent of their impriſonment of the Armenians, as the ſame was preſented by John Holme, notary public, to the ſaid Governor and Council, and ſtands recorded on their proceedings of the 18 May 1768.

Read—alſo the tranſlation of a letter from Shitabroy at Patna to Mr. Bolts, dated the 9th May 1768, the original of which being produced was proved by Gonyſhamdaſs as follows:

" After the accuſtomed Perſian compliments. The receipt of your moſt favourable and
" friendly letter gave me great pleaſure and ſatisfaction, therein you write me that Cogee
" Melcomb and Cogee Gregory, your gomaſtahs, had wrote that I had impriſoned them
" and ſent them down to Murſhedabad, and you requeſt to know what crimes they had com-
" mitted to merit ſuch puniſhment: favourable Sir, the Rajah Bulwantſing, under guard of
" his own people, ſent Monſieur Canonge, a French Gentleman, Cogee Melcomb and Cogee
" Gregory, down from Mirzapore and Banaras to me, and at ſame time wrote to me,
" that I muſt ſend them down to Murſhedabad in the very ſame manner as they were brought
" to Patna; according to the writing of the ſaid Rajah, Monſieur Canonge, the French
" Gentleman, with Cogee Melcomb and Cogee Gregore, were diſpatched to Patna. At
" that time it was not known to me that the ſaid Cogees, kind Sir, were your gomaſtahs."
Concludes with the uſual compliments.

Read—alſo the tranſlation of a letter from Juggutanund, a man of great conſequence at the city of Murſhedabad, to Mr. Bolts, dated the 24th May 1768, the original of which was produced and proved by Mr. Bolts; viz.

" On the 2d of the month Joyſtee, I received your favourable letter of the 31ſt of By-
" ſacck, and am acquainted with the contents, and perceive, that on account of two of
" your gomaſtahs, who have been impriſoned and ſent here, you had written a letter to the
" great Nabob (meaning the Nabob upon the throne, in diſtinction from the acting Naib,
" Mahomud Reza Khawn) of which you incloſe me a copy: after informing myſelf of
" every particular, I ſent the letter by a truſty perſon of my own to the Nabob, with the
" neceſſary reſpects and greetings on your part: two days after, he ſaid, I do not know
" what anſwer I can give to this letter; I have no people I can truſt; who can I ſpeak to
" upon this affair, or who will mind what I ſay? Mr. Bolts underſtands well the preſent
" ſituation of affairs, that I am nobody, and nothing can be done by me.

" As you did me the favour to write to me, I would that in any manner your buſineſs was
" done; but according to the preſent turn of the times, nothing can be expected. I kept
" your people to ſee if I could do any thing, but find it is impoſſible. Sir, you are wiſe,
" you comprehend all the affair.—Dated the 14th Joyſtee, or 24th May 1768.

" P. S. After reading and keeping your letter four days the Nabob returned it, and I
" herewith incloſe it to you."

Read—alſo the abſtract of a letter written by Mr. Verelſt on the 29 May 1768, to the Rajah Bulwantſing, marked C. N° 46; viz.

" Deſiring him to releaſe ſome boats belonging to Mr. Alexander, which he had de-
" tained, and warning him againſt ſuch proceedings in future."

Read—alſo the tranſlation of a Perſian letter from Boyenautſing, principal miniſter of Rajah Bulwantſing, to Cogee Gregore; the original of which was proved by Gonyſhamdaſs; viz.

After many compliments in the Perſian ſtyle, he proceeds,

" I have received your favourable letter, and am acquainted with the contents; my
" brother, as God Almighty would have it, was ſick at Gungapore, and therefore, for my
" brother's buſineſs, I ſtaid at the village Coruna, where I was twelve days, and ſettled all
" my buſineſs, and was myſelf alſo out of order. Yeſterday I arrived at Puttyla, and my
" dear friend was not the leaſt acquainted with your caſe, till the receipt of your letter in-
" formed me; nothing of which you complain of has been done by the Maha Rajah

" Bahadar,

" Bahadar, but ſolely and wholly by the orders of the Gentlemen of Calcutta: in this " reſpect there is no help; accordingly Bukhtſing has been wrote to, to do every thing for " you that is becoming of friendſhip, and I ſhall repreſent to Maha Rajah Bahadar ſuch " things as are proper, and the Almighty will be gracious. On your arrival in thoſe parts, " pleaſe to write to me, that I may have encouragement in my mind. For the reſt, may " happineſs attend you."

Read—alſo the following letters; viz.

Extract of a Letter from the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah to Mr. Verelſt; received by him the 4th July 1768, marked D. N° 209.

" I wrote you in a prior letter a full and particular anſwer about Mr. Bolts and Meer " Muſhallah, and I have now repeated the ſame circumſtances anew to Rajah Purſed Roy, " from whom you will be informed. I have written my whole heart without omitting or " diſguiſing any thing, or deviating the breadth of a hair: agreeable to your own deſire, I " ſome time ago returned your Excellency all thoſe letters of yours which related to that ſub- " ject; Meer Muſhallah has given an obligation under his own hand, which if he has vio- " lated, I will immediately bring him to the puniſhment contained therein."

An original note from the Rajah Bulwantſing, incloſed for Mr. Bolts, in a letter to the Rajah's ambaſſador at Calcutta, Maharage Miſſer, dated the 24 April 1768, produced and proved by Mr. Bolts.

On the cover ſealed, " Rajah Bulwantſing, Bahudur, directed to the Brammin Effegy of " Brimha Mahrage Miſſer."

" The following you are to acquaint Mr. Bolts with."

" I have received your letter. As to what you have wrote about Mr. Bolts's gomaſtahs, " you know that I have a regard for Mr. Bolts's buſineſs, and a friendſhip for him from my " heart, and always complied with whatever his gomaſtahs requeſted. When the Nabob, " Harry Verelſt's letter came, for ſending them, agreeable to that order I was obliged to ſend " them to Rajah Shitabroy; before the arrival of Mr. Bolts's and your letters, I had told " them, there is no impediment on my part."

An original letter, written by Rajah Shitabroy to Mr. Bolts, dated the 31ſt July 1768, proved by Gonyſhamdaſs, viz.

" After the uſual compliments—I received your favourable letter wherein you write, that " it appeared to you, my favourable friend, that another of your gomaſtahs, named Cogee " Rafael, who was in thoſe parts, has been impriſoned and brought down to me, and that I " had continued the ſaid Rafael under confinement, and with my own people ſent him down " to Murſhedabad; and that as you, kind Sir, are unacquainted with the crime the ſaid Ra- " fael has committed, to merit my confining and putting a guard upon him, you therefore " requeſt I will acquaint you with the ſaid Rafael's crime. My dear Sir, I did not know " that Rafael was your gomaſtah, nor am I in the leaſt acquainted with any fault he has " committed. Colonel Barker, Bahader, wrote to me that he had diſpatched to me Cogee " Rafael and two other Armenians, who in the Nabob Shujah al Dowlah's country had been " in confinement under Captain Harper, who had ſent them to him, Colonel Barker; ac- " cordingly I diſpatched them to the Nabob Khane Khanaan Mobazez al Mulk Bahader, at " Murſhedabad: the particulars of their faults or their innocence muſt be well known to " Mr. Harper himſelf; with reſpect to me, kind Sir, do not believe me capable of any thing " contrary to the ſtricteſt friendſhip towards you, you ſhall know me your own friend."

Your Committee then proceeded to read the memorial of the Armenian gentlemen, Gregore Cojamaul and Johannes Padre Rafael, as preſented to the Court of Eaſt-India Directors, dated London, the 12th September 1769, viz.

" To the Honourable the Court of Directors for the Affairs of the Honourable the " United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies.

" The humble Petition of Cogee Gregore Cojamaul and Cogee Johannes Padre Rafael, " Armenian Merchants, late of Bengal,

" Humbly ſheweth,

" That your petitioners, who are natives of Iſphahan in Perſia, have, for many years, " reſided in India, particularly in the provinces annexed to Bengal, and in the dominions of " the different Princes bordering upon thoſe provinces, where they have carried on for them- " ſelves, and others, a very extenſive trade always with the permiſſion and approbation of the " different Princes, in whoſe dominions your petitioners reſided, always paying the duties " exacted by ſuch Princes, and always chearfully ſubmitting themſelves to the laws of ſuch " countries.

" That it has ever been the cuſtom, from time immemorial, for Greeks, Georgians, " Turks, Perſians, Tartars, Caſhmeerians, Armenians, and other nations, to reſort to, " and traffic in, India, where the country nabobs, ſenſible of the benefits ariſing from the " reſort of foreign merchants, and the increaſe of trade, have, at all times, encouraged ſuch " perſons to the utmoſt of their power.

" That beſides their own traffic, your petitioners likewiſe, for about ſeven years laſt paſt, " have been honoured with buſineſs upon commiſſion from ſundry Engliſh gentlemen, ſeveral " of whom are now in England.

" That your petitioners, in ſuch tranſactions, have ever acted to the ſatisfaction of their " conſtituents, and with credit to themſelves, having ever ſtudiouſly avoided interfering in

" any

" any other than their own mercantile affairs; and as they have ever been well-wiſhers to " the Honourable Engliſh Eaſt-India Company, having never, in the moſt diſtant manner, " acted contrary to the intereſts of that Company.

" That your petitioners were lately reſident in the dominions of the Nabob Shujah al " Dowlah, and the Rajah Bulwantſing, who, to the great ſurpriſe of your petitioners, re- " ceived orders from your Preſidency of Calcutta, or Fort William, to baniſh your petitioners " out of their countries.

" That thoſe Princes communicated the orders which they had received from your ſaid Pre- " ſidency to your petitioners, who had the honour to be favoured with the friendſhip of the " ſaid Princes, who propoſed various expedients to ſcreen your petitioners from violence, as " your petitioners can ſhew by authentic documents in their hands, to the ſatisfaction of this " Honourable Court.

" That the friendſhip of thoſe Princes having induced them to evade the immediate exe- " cution of ſuch tyrannical orders, for which they knew no cauſe, your Preſident, Mr. Ve- " relſt, wrote again in repeated letters, and in the moſt peremptory terms, to have your peti- " tioners ſeized, impriſoned, and ſent down into the Company's provinces to Patna and " Murſhedabad, and, for fear of further delays or evaſions, orders were given to the imme- " diate ſervants of the Engliſh Company, who were employed to ſeize and impriſon your " petitioners, as they are likewiſe ready to prove, to the ſatisfaction of this Honourable " Court, by authentic documents and writings, under hand and ſeal of the ſaid Company's " ſervants.

" That accordingly your petitioners were ſeized in the moſt ſudden, cruel, and inhuman " manner, and brought down to the Company's factories at Patna and Murſhedabad, being " obliged to quit inſtantly all they were poſſeſſed of in that country, to a very conſiderable " amount, together with their books and papers, and the effects of many other perſons with " which they were intruſted, and for which they are amenable.

" That during the confinement of your petitioners, the relations of your petitioners did " deliver to your Preſident, Mr. Harry Verelſt, ſundry petitions, particularly one of the " 15th May 1768, and one of the 13th June 1768 (which your petitioners imagine ſtand " recorded upon your Calcutta conſultations) requeſting the releaſement of your petitioners, " and offering to give any ſuch ſecurity for money, or the appearance of your petitioners, as " might appear reaſonable to your ſaid Preſident and Council.

" That the ſaid petitions were paid no regard to, but your petitioners were continued un- " der confinement; your petitioner Cogee Gregore Cojamaul having been confined from the " 14th March 1768 to the 23d May 1768, being two months and nine days; and your " petitioner Cogee Johannes Padre Rafael, from the 27th March 1768 to the 28th Auguſt " 1768, being five months; during which time they were treated worſe than convicted felons; " Cogee Rafael being firſt impriſoned in a horſe ſtable, and afterwards both kept in cloſe con- " finement, under a ſtrong guard of the Company's ſepoys, with fixed bayonets, who never " ſuffered your petitioners to ſtir out of their ſight.

" That being at laſt releaſed from confinement, your petitioners and their friends waited " upon your Preſident, Mr. Harry Verelſt, not only to be acquainted what were the cauſes of " his diſpleaſure, and why they had been confined; but requeſting leave to return up the " country, to ſecure their effects and outſtanding concerns, thereby to preſerve themſelves " and families from ruin; but to the misfortune of your petitioners, all their applications " were paid no regard to, nor could they ever obtain any ſatisfaction, or be acquainted why " they had been thus capriciouſly impriſoned for ſo long a time, and then ſet at liberty, with- " out being accuſed of even a fictitious miſdemeanor.

" That to the great aſtoniſhment of your petitioners, upon their arrival in Calcutta, they " were informed that your Governor, Mr. Harry Verelſt, and his Council, had been pleaſed " to publiſh an edict, under date the 18th May 1768, prohibiting all Armenians and Por- " tugueze, and their deſcendants, from reſiding or trading in any part out of the provinces " of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, or from attempting to tranſport any merchandize beyond " thoſe provinces, under penalty of the utmoſt ſevere corporal puniſhment, and the confiſca- " tion of ſuch merchandize; an atteſted notorial copy of which moſt extraordinary public " edict is in the hands of your petitioners, for the inſpection of this Honourable Court.

" That your petitioners were hereby not only deprived, among others, of thoſe rights " which were due to them as men from the law of nations, but were deprived of that " freedom of trade which their nation had always enjoyed in the times of the worſt of the " ancient black Nabobs, and, in particular, were alſo deprived of all hopes of ever recovering " thoſe effects, from which they had been thus forcibly and capriciouſly taken.

" That your petitioners, who have been therefore neceſſitated at a great expence to come " to England for juſtice, now appeal to the equity of this Honourable Court, requeſting " that they will either indemnify your petitioners for the great loſſes they ſuſtain, or that " they will pleaſe to order home to anſwer for themſelves, the Preſident, Mr. Verelſt, and " ſuch of the Company's ſervants, as to this Honourable Court may appear to have been " the acting perſons in the oppreſſions complained of:

" And your petitioners, as in duty bound, ſhall ever pray.

" London, the " 12th Sept. 1769."

" COGEE GREGORE COJAMAUL,
" COGEE JOHANNES PADRE RAFAEL.

Your Committee then read a letter from the petitioner, Gregore Cojamaul, to the Court of Eaſt India Directors, dated the 29th Feb. 1772, together with the anſwer thereto; as follows:

" To the Honourable Court of Directors for affairs of the Honourable the United " Company of Merchants of England, trading to the Eaſt Indies.

" Honourable Sirs, Being acquainted by Governor Johnſtone, that he was informed by " one of the Directors of the Eaſt India Company, upon preſenting my petition to Parlia- " ment, that the Court of Directors had officially tranſmitted the memorial I delivered to " them of the 12th September 1769, to their Preſident and Council of Bengal, and that " they had received a full and explicit anſwer from thence with ſpecific charges by the laſt " ſhips; in conſequence of ſuch information, I now make my moſt humble application to " the Court, that they will be pleaſed to furniſh me with a copy or copies of ſuch anſwer " and charges, which I hope in common juſtice cannot be denied me, as I muſt ever preſume " the Directors are equally inclined to blame their ſervants when culpable, as to defend " them when innocent; and that the protection of the inhabitants of Bengal is a principal " part of their conſideration. I am, with great reſpect,

" Honourable Sirs,

" Your moſt obedient, humble, and devoted ſervant,

" London, 29th Feb. 1772. " GREGORE COJAMAUL."

At a Court of Directors of the United Eaſt-India Company, held on Wedneſday the 11th March 1772;

The Court, on conſideration of a letter from Gregore Cojamaul,

Ordered, That the following anſwer be given to the ſame, and tranſmitted to him accordingly:

" Our general letter, in anſwer to what we wrote to our Governor and Council, on the " ſubject of the Armenians petition, laid before the Court of Directors in 1769, contains " many matters very improper to be communicated on the preſent application made by the " Armenian, Gregore Cojamaul; but ſo much as materially concerns the juſtification of " our Preſidency with reſpect to thoſe perſons, is to this effect; they refer to the country " correſpondence tranſmitted to us in 1768, and to their proceedings in December 1767, " for the particulars of this matter; that theſe Armenians were diſcovered in carrying on " intrigues at the court of Sujah Dowlah, and that there was ſtrong preſumption, that they " were the inſtruments of obtaining for Mr. Bolts, copies of our Preſident's correſpondence " with the Vizier, not to mention the experience they before had of the intriguing ſpirit of " the Armenians during the government of Coſſim Ally Cawn.

" That at this very time, notwithſtanding an order in force, prohibiting the reſidence of " gomaſtahs of Engliſh gentlemen in the territories of Sujah Dowlah and Bulwantſing, or " indeed any where without the provinces, Mr. Bolts, in defiance of this order, would pre- " ſume to continue his agents; and that, as it ſhould ſeem, not merely to wind up his old " concerns in trade, but to engage in new ones. From theſe conſiderations, they hope it " will clearly appear their removal did not proceed from a motive of reſentment, either againſt " Mr. Bolts, or the Armenians themſelves.

" That it does not appear to the Council, that the late Preſident Verelſt was the immediate " inſtrument of their removal, as had been inſinuated, but that it was an act of the Princes " themſelves, and entirely optional on their parts; but admitting even that the order ſhould " have come immediately from the Preſident, or that the Company's ſepoys had been employed, " they preſume they ſhould ſtand fully juſtified for ſuch an exertion of authority, againſt per- " ſons who not only ſet their orders at defiance, but were likewiſe buſied in theſe ſchemes " and intrigues of the moſt dangerous tendency to government."

Mr. Johannes Padre Raſael, another Armenian merchant, being called upon to give an account of his being taken up to the time of his releaſement, ſaid,

I was in Fyſabad the 27 March 1768, when Captain Harper ſent two parties of ſepoys, and they took me priſoner, and carried me to Captain Harper's tent. He ſent his munſhy to know the reaſon why we came at ſuch an improper hour. I ſaid, Your maſter knows the reaſon why your ſepoys brought me here. As ſoon as I ſpoke to the munſhy, Captain Harper came out, and ſaid, I muſt ſend you to Calcutta—I anſwered, For what reaſon? he ſaid, angrily, That Mr. Verelſt had ſent a letter, and you muſt go immediately. I repreſented the diſtreſs my affairs would ſuffer, if I had not three or four months time to ſettle them, and entreated ſome delay; he ſaid, I ſhall give you three days. I repreſented, that I ſhould be ruined if I had not more time allowed me. I was put under confinement in my own houſe, and kept from the 27 March to the 1ſt May, ſtrictly guarded by ſepoys. On the 2d May I was ſent to Illahabad, and arrived there the 10th May. I was kept till the 30th in the open air. I applied by Captain Gravely to be releaſed, but without ſucceſs. The 2d June (ſtill under confinement) I was ſent to Patna, where I arrived the 28th; I was ten days at Patna under confinement. I applied to Shitabroy to be releaſed, but without ſucceſs. On the 15th July I arrived at Murſhadabad. I was brought before the Nabob. I pleaded, that as a merchant, I apprehended I might go where I pleaſed, paying the duties. The Nabob ſaid, there was now a new regulation and that could not be, and then demanded an obligation that I would not go up to the high country to trade, under the pain of confiſcation

cation of my goods. I refuſed to give the obligation, and was confined in a ſtable, without meat or drink, for twenty-four hours. I was then impriſoned in a dark dirty place, worſe than a ſtable, till the 22d Auguſt. I made application to Mahomed Reza Khawn to be releaſed: he ſaid, He could do nothing without orders from Mr. Verelſt The ſubahdar, or commander of the ſepoys, told me ſome days after, that the Nabob had been to wait on Mr. Sykes, to know whether he had any orders from the Committee, and upon his return I was ordered to be releaſed. The ſubahdar demanded ſixty rupees, which I not being able to pay, was by his authority detained three days longer, when, upon payment of the money, I was releaſed; but directions were given me not to go to the upper country, and accordingly I went to Calcutta. During my confinement, money was frequently extorted from me by the ſepoys: it coſt me, during my impriſonment, two thouſand rupees, the greateſt part of which was forced from me by the ſepoys.

Martis, 12° die Maii, 1772.

Col. Burgoyne in the Chair; Preſent,

Lord Folkeſtone,	Mr. Johnſtone,
Mr. Vane,	Mr. Rice,
Sir G. Elliot,	Mr. Strachey,
Mr. Trecothick,	Mr. Sutton.

Read a paper as ſent up, purſuant to order, by the Eaſt-India Directors, intituled, " An " Agreement between the Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading to the " Eaſt Indies, and the Armenians, dated the 22d June 1688; as follows, viz.

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the Eaſt Indies " Agreements with the Armenians, dated the 22d June 1688.

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London, trading to the Eaſt Indies, to all " to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, ſend greeting. Whereas repreſentation hath been made " to us by Sir Joſia Child, Baronet, our deputy governor, that upon long conferences by " him had with Coja Panous Calendar, an Armenian merchant of eminency, and an inha- " bitant of Iſpahan in Perſia; as alſo with Sir John Chardin, of London, Knight, they had " on behalf of the Armenian nation propoſed to him ſeveral particulars for carrying on a great " part of the Armenian trade to India and Perſia, and from thence to Europe, by way of " England; which will redound greatly to his Majeſty's advantage in his cuſtoms, and to the " increaſe of the Engliſh navigation, if the Armenian nation might obtain ſuch licence from " this Company as will give them encouragement ſo to alter and invert the ancient courſe of " their trade to and from Europe: and we being always willing to increaſe and encourage " the public trade and navigation of this kingdom, after a ſerious debate of all the propoſi- " tions relating to this affair, have thought fit to agree and reſolve as follows; viz.

" Firſt, That the Armenian nation ſhall now, and at all times hereafter, have equal ſhare " and benefit of all indulgences this Company have, or ſhall at any time hereafter grant to " any of their own adventurers or other Engliſh merchants whatſoever.

" Secondly, That they ſhall have free liberty at all times hereafter to paſs and repaſs to and " from India, on any of the Company's ſhips, on as advantageous terms as any freeman " whatſoever.

" Thirdly, That they ſhall have liberty to live in any of the Company's cities, garriſons, " or towns, in India, and to buy, ſell, and purchaſe land or houſes, and be capable of all " civil offices and preferments, in the ſame manner as if they were Engliſhmen born, and " ſhall always have the free and undiſturbed liberty of the exerciſe of their own religion. And " we hereby declare, that we will not continue any governor in our ſervice, that ſhall in any " kind diſturb or diſcountenance them in the full enjoyment of all the privileges hereby " granted to them; neither ſhall they pay any other or greater duty in India, than the Com- " pany's factors, or any other Engliſhman born, do or ought to do.

" Fourthly, That they may voyage from any of the Company's garriſons to any other ports " or places in India, the South Seas, China, or the Manilhas, in any of the Company's ſhips, " or any permiſſive free ſhips allowed by the Company; and may have liberty to trade to " China, the Manilhas, or any other ports or places within the limits of the Company's " charter, upon equal terms, duties, and freight, with any free Engliſhman whatſoever.

" But whereas all perſons in England do pay for bullion outwards two per cent. for freight " and permiſſion; and three per cent. homewards for diamonds and other precious ſtones; it " is hereby declared and agreed, that the Armenians ſhall pay three per cent. outwards for " bullion, and two per cent. homeward for diamonds; for coral and amber beads they ſhall " pay ſix per cent. for freight and permiſſion, and for coral, amber, raw cochineal, quick- " ſilver, ſword blades, fire arms of all ſorts, haberdaſhery wares, iron of all ſorts, wrought " or unwrought, paper, all ſorts of ſtationary wares, Engliſh looking or drinking glaſſes, " and for all ſorts of Norimberg wares and merchandizes, ten per cent. for permiſſion, and " ſix pounds per ton, freight. That all ſorts of leather, Venetian wares, and merchandizes, " may be ſhipped out permiſſion free, paying only ſix pounds per ton, freight; for all cloth " or woollen manufactures, of what kinds or ſort ſoever, they ſhall pay twelve and a half per " cent in lieu of all charges whatſoever, excepting only the freight and the Company's cuſ- " toms in India; for lead, ten per cent. permiſſion, and three pounds per ton, freight; for " proviſions of all ſorts, for eating and drinking, ſix pounds per ton freight, but no permiſ-

" ſion;

" ſion; and for all ſorts of goods, homeward bound, they ſhall pay in manner and form fol-
" lowing; viz.

" For diamonds, pearls, rubies, all ſorts of precious ſtones and ambergreaſe, two per
" cent. freight, and permiſſion as aforeſaid; for muſk of any kind, ſix per cent. for freight,
" and permiſſion; for pepper, one penny per pound, and for coffee ten per cent. permiſſion,
" beſides freight; for all raw ſilk of Perſia, twenty-one pounds per ton freight, but no per-
" miſſion, cuſtom, or any other charges whatſoever, excepting only two and a half per cent,
" towards demurrage of our ſhips; for all goods whatſoever, of the growth and manufacture
" of Perſia (red Carmenia wool excepted, which is hereby totally prohibited) ten per cent.
" permiſſion, and the ſame freights as the Company themſelves pay, without any other
" charges whatſoever; for all ſorts of China and Bengal goods, during the Company's indul-
" gence for thoſe kinds of goods, and no longer, in what place ſoever loaden, thirteen per
" cent. for permiſſion, and all other charges whatſoever, over and above the ſame freight as
" the Company pay, and the cuſtoms hereafter mentioned; viz. All goods outward and
" homeward bound are to pay the Company in Eaſt India, five per cent. cuſtom on the firſt
" coſt, as per invoices of the ſaid goods, whether they be laden from, or delivered into, any
" of the Company's ports or places, or into any other ports or places whatſoever, excepting
" only from this article, all bullion, diamonds, and other precious ſtones, ambergreaſe,
" muſk, and raw Perſian ſilk. And it is agreed, that the permiſſion money and freight for
" all goods outward bound, to be paid in India as aforeſaid, ſhall be accounted for at eight and
" a half rupees per pound ſterling upon hypothecation of the goods to the Company in Lon-
" don; and we do declare, that for eaſe of accounts, the cuſtom due to the Company in
" Eaſt India, is to be included together with the other charges; viz. freight and permiſſion,
" according to the premiſes, and all inſerted in one ſum, upon the reſpective bills of loading,
" which ſum is always to be paid before the delivery of the goods to the perſons mentioned in
" the ſaid bills of loading, which is the true intent of the hypothecation before expreſſed.
" That all goods which have once paid cuſtom, are not to pay any again either upon import-
" ation or exportation of the ſaid goods, to the place where they firſt paid it, or to any other
" port or place belonging to us in the Eaſt Indies. That every perſon that ſhall take paſſage
" on any of the Company's ſhips, ſhall pay in Eaſt India twelve pounds ſterling for his per-
" miſſion outwards, at the rate of eight rupees and a half per pound ſterling; and the like
" ſum to be paid here for every perſon that ſhall take paſſage homeward, beſides eight
" pounds per head for ſea proviſions, which it is hereby agreed ſhall always be paid in Lon-
" don; and for ſuch perſons who ſhall board at the Captain's table, they ſhall pay ten gui-
" neas each to the captain for the ſame. But the ſervants ſhall be meſſed apart by themſelves,
" and always have the ſame allowances of ſhip proviſions as the officers and ſeamen of the ſhip
" have, or ought to have. And it is alſo granted to the ſaid Armenians, that the paſſengers
" ſhall be allowed, both out and home, to carry with them their wearing clothes, furniture,
" and proviſions, not exceeding one quarter of a ton for each man, freight free. And
" whereas the ſaid Armenians have uſed to drive a great trade from India to Turky, over-
" land, by the way of Perſia and Arabia, and are now deſirous to drive that whole trade by
" the way of England: it is hereby declared and agreed, that the ſaid Armenians have liberty
" to ſend, upon any of the Company's ſhips for England, any ſorts of goods of Eaſt India,
" conſigning them to the Company by true invoices and bills of loading, and not otherwiſe,
" paying ten per cent. permiſſion on the value of the ſaid goods in London, beſides the ſame
" freight as we ourſelves pay. And it is hereby declared, that the Company have liberty to
" detain and keep in their poſſeſſion all ſuch goods as ſhall be conſigned unto them as afore-
" ſaid, until they have ſhipped them off upon Engliſh ſhipping bound for Turky, Venice, or
" Leghorn, and taken ſecurity; yet they ſhall not be landed in any other ports or places of
" Europe, except the place to which they ſhall be conſigned, according as they ſhall be di-
" rected, by the ſaid Armenian proprietors, or their agents. And laſtly, it is declared and
" agreed, that notwithſtanding any thing aforeſaid, it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid
" Company to reſerve and keep for their own uſe, any of the ſaid goods ſo intended for Turky
" as aforeſaid, paying the Proprietors one third part clear profit on the firſt coſt of the goods
" as aforeſaid, all freight, charges, and diſburſements whatſoever, being firſt deducted and
" fore-prized, eight rupees in India being in this caſe to be accounted for one pound ſterling.
" In witneſs whereof, the Governor, Deputy Governor, and three of the Committee of the
" ſaid Company, have hereunto ſet their hands, and cauſed the larger ſeal of the ſaid
" Company to be affixed this two-and-twentieth day of June, anno Domini 1688, and in
" the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, James the Second, by the grace of
" God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

(Signed)

" Benjamin Bathurst, Governor,
" Josia Child, Deputy Governor,
" . . . . . Worcester,
" John Moore,
" George Boun.

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the Eaſt Indies,
" to all whom it may concern, ſend greeting: Whereas Coja Panous Kalendar, an Arme-

" nian

" nian merchant of eminency, and an inhabitant of Iſpahan in Perſia, hath taken great " pains in making an agreement with the ſaid Company, for a great trade to be carried on in " Engliſh ſhipping, by himſelf and others of the Armenian nation; the ſaid Governor and " Company, in conſideration thereof, do by theſe preſents (at the requeſt of the ſaid Coja " Panous Kalendar) freely grant unto him and his family, the ſole trade of garnate, he " paying ten per cent. cuſtom for the ſame, and the uſual freight paid by the Company. " And the ſaid Company do hereby declare, that they will neither trade in the ſaid com- " modity themſelves, nor ſuffer any other perſons, Engliſh, or ſtrangers, for the future, to " trade or traffic in that commodity. Given under the Company's larger ſeal, as alſo " under the hands of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and three of the Committee of " the ſaid Company, this two-and-twentieth day of June, anno Domini 1688, and in " the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the Second, by the grace of " God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

(Signed)
" BENJAMIN BATHURST, Governor,
" JOSIA CHILD, Deputy Governor,
" . . . . . WORCESTER,
" JOHN MOORE,
" GEORGE BOUN.

" The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the Eaſt Indies, to " all to whom it may concern, ſend greeting: Whereas it hath been repreſented unto us, that " the Armenian nation have a great deſire to carry on a trade and commerce with our people " in the Eaſt Indies, we do, for the better encouragement of that nation, to ſettle and " cohabit in the ſeveral garriſons, cities, and towns, in the Eaſt Indies, under our juriſdiction, " by theſe preſents, declare, grant, and agree, that whenever forty or more of the Armenian " nation ſhall become inhabitants in any of the garriſons, cities, or towns, belonging to " the Company in the Eaſt Indies, the ſaid Armenians ſhall not only have and enjoy the free " uſe and exerciſe of their religion, but there ſhall be alſo allotted to them, a parcel of ground " to erect a church thereon, for the worſhip and ſervice of God in their own way; and that " we will alſo, at our own charge, cauſe a convenient church to be built of timber, which " afterwards the ſaid Armenians may alter and build with ſtone, or other ſolid materials, to " their own good liking; and the ſaid Governor and Company will alſo allow fifty pounds " per annum, during the ſpace of ſeven years, for the maintenance of ſuch prieſt or miniſ- " ter, as they ſhall chuſe to officiate therein. Given under the Company's larger ſeal, as " alſo under the hands of the Governor and Deputy Governor, and three of the Committee " of the ſaid Company, this two-and-twentieth day of June, anno Domini 1688, and in " the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James the Second, King of England, " Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. (Signed)

" BENJAMIN BATHURST, Governor,
" JOSIA CHILD, Deputy Governor,
" . . . . . WORCESTER,
" JOHN MOORE,
" GEORGE BOUN."

Your Committee then proceeded to read part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council at Calcutta, at a conſultation held the 3d March 1766; at which were preſent Lord Clive, General Carnac, Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Claud Ruſſell, William Alderſey, Thomas Kelſall, and Charles Floyer, Eſqrs. viz.

" It appearing from undoubted authority, that one Coga Mockil, an Armenian, has " filed, in the Mayor's court, a fictitious ſuit againſt Johanna Marcat, an Armenian " widow, merely with a view to evade the demands of the country government, with which " ſhe has large accounts, and has therefore taken refuge here without our knowledge, and " as nothing is ſo difficult as to inveſtigate colluſion of parties to the ſatisfaction of law, " the Court may not have the power of redreſs, though convinced of the fact—Agreed there- " fore to put a ſtop to practices ſo prejudicial to the Company's affairs, as they muſt neceſſarily " interfere with the revenues; that the Board interpoſe their authority, as Preſident and Council, " and withdraw the Company's protection from both parties, turning the complainant im- " mediately out of the ſettlement, and the defendant as ſoon as ſhe may be regularly releaſed " from the Sheriff's cuſtody.

Read alſo the 59th and 60th paragraphs of a letter from the Court of Eaſt India Directors to their Preſident and Council at Bengal, dated the 4th March 1767; viz.

Par. 59. " As to the colluſive ſuit you mention to be brought in the Mayor's court, by " Coja Mockil againſt Johanna Marcat, with a view to evade the demands of the country " government: the charter empowers the Mayor's court to entertain ſuits between natives, if " the defendant does not object to the juriſdiction, and after judgment the plaintiff has a right " to the common proceſs of the court, for obtaining ſatisfaction againſt the defendant's body " or goods; and upon commencing every ſuit, if the plaintiff makes oath of his debt, he may " hold the defendant to bail; and in that caſe, where he is impriſoned for want of bail, or is " taken in execution after judgment, he muſt remain in cuſtody, as in ordinary caſes. " Where no ſuit is depending, and parties ſeek refuge in our ſettlements who have de-

" frauded the country government, you may, on a proper repreſentation, withdraw our pro-
" tection, and ſuffer the country powers to apprehend and deal with them according to their
" own laws; but we are of opinion, you have no right to baniſh any party, plaintiff, or de-
" fendant, who may be guilty of theſe colluſions. If there is no debt really due from the
" defendant to the plaintiff, moſt certainly the action or ſuit is an abuſe of the proceſs of the
" court, and the Mayor's court may, as the courts of law and equity do here upon proof of
" ſuch colluſion, impriſon the parties for a contempt of the court; but we know of no law
" that will juſtify a ſentence of baniſhment in caſes of this kind."

Par. 60. " The beſt method we can adviſe, as a means to prevent theſe colluſive ſuits, is,
" that the Mayor's court do immediately publiſh a rule of practice to this effect; viz. That
" in every caſe where a ſuit is brought in that court by Indian againſt Indian, wherein the
" defendant is held to bail, it ſhall be fully ſpecified and ſet forth in the plaintiff's affidavit of
" the debt, where the ſame was contracted, the time when, and the nature of the debt,
" whether upon bond, note, or how otherwiſe, and for what conſideration, actually and
" *bona-fide* given or paid; and in every caſe where the cauſe of action is not ſworn to arife
" within the limits of the ſettlement, the Mayor's court ought to refuſe to iſſue proceſs for
" arreſting the defendant."

Mr. Verelſt was then called, and aſked,

Q. What do you know with reſpect to the impriſonment of the Armenians, the cauſe of it, and by whoſe authority they were confined?

A. I ſhould be very glad to give any account in my power to the Committee of thoſe tranſactions; but as the petitioner Cojamaul, and Rafael, another Armenian, have commenced ſuits againſt me, both in Chancery and the Court of Common Pleas, to which I have a defence, and don't doubt a full juſtification; and as thoſe ſuits are now depending, I am adviſed by my council not to anſwer, before this Committee, matters which are the ſubjects of thoſe ſuits; I therefore wiſh to decline anſwering the queſtion.

Mr. Bolts.

Q. What time did you reſign the Company's ſervice?

A. I believe in November 1766.

Q. When was it firſt notified to you, by the Governor and Council, that you ſhould return to England?

A. A few months after I reſigned the ſervice, but while I was a magiſtrate of the Mayor's court.

Mr. Cojamaul.

Q. After you had got the purwannah, and was in Sujah al Dowlah's country, did you do any buſineſs for Mr. Bolts?

A. I did no new buſineſs for Mr. Bolts after the date of that purwannah.

Q. What buſineſs did you?

A. I gathered in ſome money for him, and ſold his remaining goods.

Q. Do you know of Mr. Verelſt's applying in writing to the Nabob, Mahomed Rheza Khawn, at the requeſt of Cogee Melcomb, for him to proceed to Patna, in order to receive his effects in Sujah Dowlah's country after your arrival in Calcutta?

A. I know of no application.

Mr. Bolts.

Q. Was you forced out of the country?

A. I was, by a party of 28 armed ſoldiers, by an order of Mr. Verelſt, and the reſt of the council: I had refuſed to go. Captain Coxe came to me early in the morning of the 23d September 1768; kept his guard at a diſtance; ſhewed me the order that he had from the Governor and Council, and told me that he muſt take me away if I did not conſent to go voluntarily.—I told him that I did not conceive thoſe gentlemen had any right to ſend me away; that I had long been perſecuted, and that they had long threatened it, but that I never thought they would have dared to execute their threats—I ſent to my friends, and in about ten minutes there were 20 or 30 gentlemen aſſembled.

I petitioned the Captain for a little time to throw my books and my wife's clothes into a couple of cheſts, and he was kind enough to grant me two hours, but then ſaid he could ſtay no longer with ſafety. I went into my wife's bedchamber to ſee if ſhe had ſent her things away, when the Captain, and one of his ſepoys, came into the bedchamber and took me out by the ſhoulders; they marched me through the ſtreets to a boat that was prepared for me, in which they conducted me on board a ſloop prepared for the purpoſe.—My wife followed me afterwards.—In that ſloop we were conducted down the river, and kept ſeven days and nights under confinement in the ſloop, with the ſepoys at the cabin-door.—When the ſhip Valentine was under way, we were taken out of that ſloop to ſea, and forcibly put on board the Valentine, and brought to England.

Q. When the firſt ſentence of baniſhment was pronounced againſt you, had you any intimation of your crime, or was you called before the Governor and Council that pronounced it, to make any defence?

A. I had no intimation whatever, nor was ever called before them.

Q. Do you remember when you received the firſt ſentence from the Secretary of the Governor and Select Committee?

A. I think it was in April 1767.

Q.

Q. Did you ever know for what reaſon you was thus ſent home?

A. I never knew more than what was written in the paper delivered me as my ſentence, after I was baniſhed in April 1767.

The ſaid paper was then ordered to be produced, and was read as follows; viz.

An Extract from the Proceedings of the Select Committee, dated the 18 April 1767.

" That Mr. William Bolts appears, from many circumſtances, to be deeply concerned in " the conſpiracy to ruin Nobekiſſen's character, and attempt his life; in which opinion the " Committee are confirmed, by his violent and declared reſentment to Nobekiſſen, by the " ſhare he took in ſtirring up, and inſtigating a proſecution againſt him in the zemindary " court, upon an imaginary and falſe accuſation; and particularly from his taking, at this " juncture, into his ſervice, Ramnaut, a man who ſtands publicly convicted of perjury, " with a view of forging and publiſhing farther aſperſions upon Nobekiſſen's character.

" That Mr. Bolts having, upon this and many other occaſions, endeavoured to draw an " odium upon the adminiſtration, and to promote faction and diſcontent in the ſettlement, " has rendered himſelf unworthy of any farther indulgence from the Committee, and of the " Company's protection.

" That therefore he be directed to quit Bengal, and proceed to Madraſs by the firſt ſhip " that ſhall ſail for that Preſidency, in the month of July next, in order to take his paſſage " from thence to Europe in September.

" A true extract.

(Signed) " C. W. Boughton,

" Aſſiſtant Secretary Select Committee."

Q. Did you ever hear of any other reaſons except what are ſpecified in the above paper?

A. I never heard of any, excepting that I had wrote a letter to Mr. Gentil, acquainting him with the parliamentary proceedings, which has been read—common, general news.

Q. Did you never hear that one reaſon of your being ſent away, was, your evading ſigning the new covenants, relative to receiving of preſents?

A. I never heard of any ſuch reaſon.

Q. Did you ſign the new covenants?

A. I did not ſign them myſelf, but I did by my deputy, which was equally as valid, and which I always acknowledged to be ſo.

Q. Why did you not ſign them yourſelf?

A. Becauſe it was my pleaſure.

Q. Did you ever give any other reaſon for not ſigning yourſelf?

A. I don't remember I ever did.

Q. Who was the deputy that ſigned them for you?

A. My own book-keeper, in my name, and for me; he was a native of the country.

Q. Did you not give as a reaſon for not ſigning the covenants, that you had taken an oath you never would?

A. If I have, it will appear upon the public records.—I believe I did.

Q. Did you enter into any new contracts or concerns in trade after you had reſigned the ſervice?

A. I did, becauſe I had a right to do it.

Q. Do you know any inſtance of any other perſon, who had reſigned the ſervice of the company, forced out of the country in the manner you was?

A. I know of none in the civil ſervice of the Company, but I know of ſeveral gentlemen, who had been in the military ſervice, being ſeized and ordered for England; but I know of none that were ſeized ſo ſuddenly, and with ſo much violence as I was.

Q. Is it not uſual for civil ſervants to go when they receive notice?

A. I never knew of any ſuch cuſtom among any of the civil ſervants, though I have known many inſtances of ſuch arbitrary orders.

Q. Have thoſe orders been obeyed?

A. Sometimes they have, and ſometimes not.

Q. What is done with the civil ſervants when they do not obey?

A. I have not known of any civil ſervants ſent away by force.—Sometimes their reſiding was diſpenſed with; but I ſuppoſe they would have been ſent away if they had not gone voluntarily.

Q. Do you know of any civil ſervants going away when they were ordered?

A. Yes.

Q. When did that cuſtom begin of ordering people to be ſeized and ſent home by force?

A. I never knew of any inſtance before 1765 or 1766.

Q. Did you ever know of any civil ſervants refuſing to go when the orders were not diſpenſed with?

A. I don't remember any of the civil covenanted ſervants of the Company refuſing to go; but I know of ſeveral Britiſh ſubjects being forced, upon ſuch orders, to ſeek that protection in the foreign ſettlements that they could not enjoy in their own.

Q. Did you never know of any Britiſh ſubjects, covenanted or not covenanted, who continued to reſide in Calcutta after ordered to quit, and that order not diſpenſed with?

A. None in my time; but have heard of others in former times.

Q. What

Q. What inſtances have you heard of in former times?

A. There was a Gentleman named Cooke, and ſeveral others, whoſe names I don't recollect. Mr. Cooke was in the Company's civil ſervice at Dacca, and, as I heard, diſmiſſed for embezzlement, and ordered home by the Directors, but refuſed to go, and remained in the country;—the Governor and Council, at that period, did not think themſelves ſafe to execute ſuch orders.

Q. Were there not orders repeatedly iſſued for two years, for you to go away before you was forced away?

A. There were; but I always conſidered them as illegal, and in my caſe, as particularly void in law, becauſe I was an Alderman of the Mayor's court.

Q. Was you an Alderman of the Mayor's court at the time the firſt order for your departure was iſſued?

A. I was.

Q. Did you ever aſſign that as a reaſon to the Governor and Council for not going?

A. I never entered upon the legality of the orders with the Governor and Council—I don't remember I aſſigned that as a reaſon.

Q. How long was it after you received your ſentence of baniſhment, that you heard the objection againſt you for not ſigning the covenants?

A. The ſentence of baniſhment was dated in April 1767; and I firſt heard of the other charge concerning the covenants, in September 1768.

Q. When this charge reſpecting the covenants was ſtated againſt you, did you offer to find ſecurity to any perſon who ſhould alledge you was not equally bound by the deed of your clerk done by your order, as if done by yourſelf, or to the Company, to ſtand any proſecution for receipt of preſents while you was in the Company's ſervice?

A. I did.

Q. Was it ever alledged by any perſon, that you had received any preſents when in the Company's ſervice, after the covenants were ordered to be ſigned?

A. It never was alledged againſt me, either when in or out of the ſervice.

Q. How long had you reſigned the ſervice before September 1768?

A. About two years; and I had ordered my clerk to ſign the covenants three years preceding that date.

Q. Had or had not the Governor and Council directed you to be diſmiſſed from the Mayor's court before ſuch charge of not ſigning the covenants was ſuggeſted?

A. They had ordered me to be diſmiſſed.

Q. What was the anſwer to the Court in conſequence of that order?

A. That there was no legal vacancy in the Court.

Q. How long is it cuſtomary in the Eaſt Indies to allow civil ſervants reſigning the privilege of the Company's duſtuck?

A. Twelve months.

Q. If moſt of the ſervants, who went away upon being ordered, would not have naturally returned to their own country without ſuch orders?

A. I believe they would all have returned.

Q. Who were the agents you employed in thoſe concerns you entered into after your reſignation?

A. I had above 150, and amongſt others the two Armenians who have given evidence, but theſe were only employed in collecting outſtanding debts, and diſpoſing of goods and contracts which were on hand before my reſignation.

Q. What ſettlements do you mean that ſeveral Britiſh ſubjects went to, to get that protection they were refuſed in their own?

A. The French, Dutch, Portugueſe, and Danes—they employed themſelves in trade.

Q. What are their names?

A. One named Duffield, another Byrn, another Burſlem; and ſeveral others, whoſe names I cannot recollect.

Q. Give an account of the nature of purwannahs, when they firſt took place; and what effects they are ſuppoſed to produce?

A. Purwannahs of the nature of that which was produced to the Committee, were never thought of till 1766. I, as well as all the native merchants I ever converſed with upon it, conſidered it as a ſcandalous regulation to monopolize trade, as may be underſtood from the very tenor of it, as it was explained to the Committee.

Q. Did it exempt from duties?

A. I never underſtood that it did.

Q. What then was the effect of it?

A. The Select Committee had made an order in February 1766, which was renewed in October following, that none ſhould buy or ſell without theſe purwannahs; and this purwannah was to give the Committee's ſanction for trading.

Q. What was the greateſt amount of duties payable on the ſpot, upon goods in Bulwantſing's country?

A. I know of no duties but thoſe which are paid upon the tranſportation of goods from one place to another, either by land or water in Bulwantſing's country, except on piece-goods, upon which a duty or fee called cutwally is collected on the ſpot; and this cutwally is

no

no more than the charge of a tacka (that is, about the 25th part of a rupee) which the cutwal collects for fixing his ſeal to the corner of the piece; all other duties are paid upon the tranſportation, for which a duſtuck is requiſite.

Your Committee then proceeded to read the following extracts from the proceedings of the Select Committee at Bengal; held under dates the 22d and 31ſt October 1766; viz.

" Reſolved, That in future the trade of all Europeans whatever be confined to the articles " ſpecified in the annexed liſt, and conſidered as returns to, or exports from, the Preſidency " and factories; and that no trade ſhall henceforward be carried on from one aurung to another, " or from one part of the interior country to another, in any of the articles contained in this " liſt, or in any other articles whatſoever, on pain of confiſcation of the goods, to be ap- " propriated at the pleaſure of this Committee, and forfeiture of the Company's ſervice, or of " free merchants indentures, or licence of the Governor and Council; according as the treſ- " paſs ſhall be committed by perſons in or out of the Company's ſervice.

" And it being now the intention of this Committee to fulfil, in the moſt effectual manner, " the Honourable Company's inſtructions reſpecting the inland trade, and to remove all " cauſe of diſturbance and oppreſſion committed in the interior country, under ſanction of " the Engliſh name,

" Reſolved, That in future all gomaſtahs, whether employed on account of the Company, " or of individuals, ſhall ſtrictly refrain from interfering in any matters that may tend to in- " terrupt the collections, or diſturb the buſineſs of the Government.

" That they ſhall ſcrupulouſly avoid taking cognizance of any diſputes or differences they " may have with the country people, or aſſuming to themſelves any degree of judicial " authority.

" That in all ſuch points of difference and diſpute, whether with reſpect to trade, or " otherwiſe, they ſhall appeal firſt to the neareſt officer of the Government; and in caſe of " delay or refuſal of redreſs from him, they ſhall then lay their complaints before Mahomed " Reza Khawn, or the Reſident at the Durbar, or the Council, or Select Committee.

" That whoever ſhall be found deviating from the evident meaning and intent of this re- " ſolution (a copy of which will be ſent to the Reſident at the Durbar and to Mahomed Reza " Khawn) ſhall immediately forfeit their employments, and the Company's protection, and " likewiſe be ſubject to ſuch further puniſhment as the Council or Committee may think " proper to inflict."

The Committee then read a licence from the Rajah Bulwantſing, which was produced by Mr. Cojamaul; and proved by Gonyſhamdaſs; viz.

" Settlement of the farm of ſalt petre of the province of Ghazipore, in the name of the " favourable friend Gregore; that is, the farm of the ſalt petre of the ſaid province, for the " ſum of 1001 rupees for the year 1174 fuſſully according to the obligation of the before- " mentioned, having ſettled, and being given in his charge, it is neceſſary that the men- " tioned ſum, according to the eſtabliſhed payments of the rabuliat, he ſhall pay into the " treaſury, and with eaſy mind he may employ himſelf in the buſineſs of the ſaid ſalt petre " farm, pleaſe God there ſhall be no difference in this agreement:

" 1201 rupees for the year 1174 fuſſully.

" Written on the 1ſt Shabaan 1174 fuſſully.

" Entered in the Seah account book of the dewan, the 1ſt Shabaan fuſſully 1174.

" Entered in the dewan dufter the 1ſt Shabaan 1174 fuſſully."

Likewiſe a licence from the cutwal, or collector of Bulwantſing's duties, produced by Mr. Cojamaul, of the farm of the ophium in Ghazipore, for the years 1766, 1767, and 1768; proved by Gonyſhamdaſs; viz.

" Agreement for the farms of the ophium of the ſircar Ghazipore, that is, ſince the farm " of the ophium of the aboveſaid ſircar, for the ſum of ſix thouſand and three Banaras " rupees, for the whole of three years, from the beginning of the year 1174 fuſſully to the " end of 1176 fuſſully, according to the obligation of the favourable friend Cogee Gregore, " having ſettled and being given, it is neceſſary that the mentioned ſum, according to the " payments, year by year, he ſhall pay, and with eaſy mind apply to the buſineſs of the " farm of ophium, pleaſe God there ſhall be no difference, and other merchants ſhall not " buy it.

" Dated the 12th of the month Shabaan, the year 1174 fuſſully."

General Richard Smith being then called, the following queſtions were aſked him; viz.

Q. What do you know of the impriſonment of theſe three Armenians, what the cauſe of it, and by what authority they were confined?

A. I have a cauſe depending with the two Armenians, and yet I am willing to give the beſt account I can to this Committee.

Q. Do you know of any general orders or regulations for reſtricting the trade of the Engliſh and their agents, in the provinces belonging to the King and Shujah Dowlah?

A. I do.

Q. Did you at any time hear any complaints made of the conduct of ſuch agents by the King, Sujah Dowlah, Bulwantſing, or others; and what were ſuch complaints?

A. I have; and they appear in my letter to the Select Committee of the 3d January 1768.

The following extract from the ſaid letter was then read; viz.

" The Nabob repreſented to me the great inconveniences which ariſe from the gomaſtahs " and dependants of Engliſh Gentlemen reſiding in his dominions, particularly at Garrack- " poor, Mirzapoor, and in the zemindary of Benaris and Gazapoor; that he was extremely " tender in exerting his authority over any of thoſe who even aſſumed the Engliſh name, not- " withſtanding that theſe people were guilty of many impoſitions and extortions on his ſub- " jects, as well as defrauding him of his duties; now, as he had received repeated aſſurances " from the Preſidency that no private trade ſhould be carried on in his dominions, ſo he re- " queſted that I would not only exert my power to free his country from the Armenians and " natives of Bengal in the ſervice of individuals, but that I would alſo repreſent the ſame to " you, ſo that effectual means might be taken for their expulſion: ſenſible of the juſtice of " this repreſentation, I did not heſitate to aſſure him, that nothing was further from the de- " ſign or approbation of the Engliſh ſerdars; that I had heard our Preſident made it a point, " neither to grant duſtucks or purwannahs into his Excellency's dominions;—that no con- " ſideration whatſoever could induce the Engliſh chiefs to ſuffer the advantages or emolu- " ments of individuals to be a means of giving him the moſt diſtant cauſe of uneaſineſs or " concern—I aſſured him of my ready concurrence in every meaſure to ſuppreſs this growing " evil, and would repreſent it in the ſtrongeſt manner to the Committee, that effectual mea- " ſures might be taken to remove it--deſired he would apprehend all thoſe who were guilty " of any impoſitions on our name, which, ſo far from giving umbrage to the Engliſh ſerdars, " would be eſteemed a favour conferred on us. I further added, that to convince his Excel- " lency how deſirous I was to ſtrike at the root of this evil, on my return to Allahabad, it " ſhould be my care that the purwannah, he himſelf had granted to Iſmael Beg (one of his " own ſubjects, for the excluſive privilege of making ſalt petre upon account of Engliſh " Gentlemen, and upon condition that he furniſhed the Nabob with whatever quantity he " wanted at prime coſt) ſhould be returned, that he might be convinced no private advan- " tages whatſoever could weigh with an Engliſhman, which might in the remoteſt degree " affect the public. The Nabob ſaid, in anſwer, that he eſteemed this as a freſh inſtance of " attention and regard.

" As I have been informed of theſe circumſtances, not only from the Nabob, but as Rajah " Bulwantſing has alſo repreſented the late frequency of Engliſh duſtucks and Engliſh pur- " wannahs, it is but too apparent, notwithſtanding the reſolutions at the Preſidency, that " there is an abuſe in this matter; I do therefore moſt earneſtly recommend to the Commit- " tee, that they will enter upon the moſt vigorous meaſures for entirely aboliſhing a ſyſtem ſo " fraught with pernicious conſequences, and which very ſyſtem had ſo lately proved almoſt " fatal to the Company's welfare in Bengal. I have the honour to ſubſcribe myſelf, with " great reſpect, Gentlemen,

" Head Quarters, near " Your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,
" Kierabad, the 3d January 1768. " RICHARD SMITH."

Q. Do you know whether ſuch agents were made acquainted with ſuch orders for reſtraining trade, and did they pay obedience thereto?

A. There was a general publication of thoſe orders, I believe ſome time in 1768, long after my letter, and which will appear upon the Company's books.—I think the publication was after my return to the Board at Calcutta in April.

Q. Did you know of Cojamaul, an Armenian, or other Armenians, agents for Mr. Bolts, reſiding in thoſe diſtricts?

A. It was impoſſible for me to know any gomaſtahs—I don't recollect I knew him particularly—there were 500 gomaſtahs.

Q. Did

Q. Did this meaſure of reſtrictive orders proceed principally from the Governor and Council on complaint of the Princes?

A. I may ſay it originated from the ſubſtance of my letter above mentioned.

Q. When Sujah Dowlah deſired you to inform the Governor and Council of thoſe irregularities, what anſwer did the Governor give?

General Smith then read the following extract of a letter which he received from Mr. Vereſt; viz.

" Sir, Fort William, 31ſt Jan. 1768.

" I have received your letters of the 10th and 20th December, with returns of the army " for the month of November, and of the 6th and 9th inſtant, with the draughts of three " ſurveys made in the ſubah of Oud; as ſoon as the other two you mentioned are copied, I " ſhall be obliged to you for them.

" It is with ſome aſtoniſhment, as well as concern, that I obſerve the repreſentations you " have been pleaſed to make to the Committee, in your letter to them of the 3d inſtant, " reſpecting the private trade carried on by Engliſh gomaſtahs in the circars of Gauzypur and " Mizzapur, and other parts of the Nabob Sujah al Dowlah's dominions; I therefore have ta- " ken this method to acquaint you with my ſentiments thereon; for, notwithſtanding I am at " all times determined to preſerve and ſupport my prerogative in its due extent, and to endea- " vour at conducting all affairs of a public nature to the beſt of my abilities, upon what I eſteem " the moſt ſteady, uniform, and ſolid plan, yet no difference of opinion, in thoſe points, " ſhall have any ſway with me, when matters of private concern are under my conſideration.

" The orders of the Company, and the reſolutions of the Committee, are poſitive, that no " private trade ſhall be carried on without theſe provinces, and the penalty to thoſe who ſhall " diſobey them, no leſs than diſmiſſion from the ſervice; yet, it appears by your letter, that " they are diſobeyed, and that too, in ſuch a manner, as to oblige the Nabob Sujah al " Dowlah to complain to you of the oppreſſions and extortions of Engliſh gomaſtahs; the " truth of which was confirmed by Bulwantling.

" You have expreſſed your apprehenſions of fatality to the Company's poſſeſſions, unleſs " the moſt vigorous meaſures be purſued by the Committee, to annihilate theſe complaints, " ſo fraught with pernicious conſequences; and informed the Committee of your having " aſſured Sujah al Dowlah how deſirous you are to ſtrike at the root of this evil, and that it " ſhould be your care that the purwannah for an excluſive privilege to make ſalt petre on " account of the Engliſh, granted to Iſmael Beg, ſhould be returned.

" Called upon, as the Committee are, in this public manner, were they to content them- " ſelves with only recording your letter upon the face of their proceedings, the Court of Di- " rectors might very poſſibly conceive an idea of your attentive and faithful ſervices at their " expence, or perhaps ſee cauſe to ſuſpect their diſintereſtedneſs and integrity; if, on the " contrary, they ſecond your remonſtrance with that degree of vigour you tell them it ſhould, " by reſolving to detect and puniſh every aggreſſor, may not your name happen to ſtand re- " corded at the head of the liſt?—You have particularized Iſmael Beg; ſhould they enquire " by whom he has been employed, will it not be found that he was employed by you?— " Employed, not only in carrying on a trade prohibited by the Company, but even to raiſe " that trade into a monopoly throughout the greateſt part of the dominions of our friend " and ally.

" You ſay, in your public letter, you have heard I made it a point neither to grant duſtucks " nor purwannahs into Sujah al Dowlah's dominions; I imagined you had known it was a " point eſtabliſhed with me, and invariably adhered to—however, Sujah al Dowlah having " repeatedly written to me on this ſubject, on reading your letter I had my anſwers recorded " on the Committee proceedings, as well as my aſſurance of never having granted either " duſtuck or purwannah beyond the provinces ſince my coming to the government, except " for the baggage of officers going to camp.

" However hardly you may have conceived of my conduct towards you on any public ac- " count, it is very far from me to wiſh you an injury, and on the preſent occaſion I am ſorry " you have acted in ſo unguarded a manner. If any Engliſh Gentlemen have been led to " extend their trade beyond the provinces, and their gomaſtahs been culpable in their con- " duct, a repreſentation thereof to me ſhould immediately have removed every cauſe of com- " plaint, and a private reprehenſion corrected the indiſcretion of the offenders; but your ac- " cuſation being public and general, thoſe who have tranſgreſſed, muſt abide by the conſe- " quences.

" Being ſenſible that the emoluments of your office are inadequate to your ſtation, you may " remember I recommended your entering into trade, which you might engage ſome of your " friends to manage for you; how far you have declared your concern herein I know not, " but it has been matter of general complaint, that the attention of moſt of the officers of " the army has, of late, been taken up with commercial matters more than is conſiſtent with " their duty; and when reprehended upon this head, they have not ſcrupled to quote the ex- " ample of the commanding officer. As the very being of the Company, in the preſent " poſture of affairs, depends in great meaſure upon the ſtate of our army, I wiſh to ſee a ſtop " put to a practice which may be productive, if ſuffered to go on, of ſuch dangerous conſe- " quences. I would very gladly promote the intereſt of the army by all proper and reaſona- " ble means, but not at the expence of the ſervice.

" It

" It is probable you may ſuppoſe I have expreſſed myſelf with a degree of freedom in ſome " parts of this letter; but as it is obvious that my intentions are altogether friendly, I hope " you will do me the juſtice to believe me with great regard,

(Signed) " H. VERELST."

Read alſo the following extracts from a letter written by Colonel Richard Smith, in anſwer to the Preſident Mr. Verelſt, as produced by the Colonel; dated Head Quarters, at Meer Abſell's gardens near Patna, the 8 February 1768; viz.

" Sir, I have this day received your letter of the 31ſt ult. The freedom with which you " have expreſſed your ſentiments, may be very readily admitted, ſince you profeſs your inten- " tions to be altogether friendly; I hope you will, in my turn, indulge me with the ſame " liberty, ſince I ſhall deliver my thoughts with an equal degree of ſincerity.

" Marvel not, Sir, at my repreſentations to the Select Committee concerning the proſecu- " tion of private trade in Sujah Dowlah's dominions; be aſſured it is high time to remedy " theſe grievances—ſuch complaints of oppreſſion had been made to me as were inſufferable; " had I been treated by you in a manner due to my rank and character, you ſhould have been " particularly adviſed of this and every other material circumſtance that came to my know- " ledge; but circumſtanced as I have been, it became neceſſary for me to confine my corre- " ſpondence to the Board, and this will account for my not writing you a private letter on " this ſubject.

" I am concerned you ſhould expreſs even a ſuppoſition, ' That ſhould the Committee " content themſelves with only recording my letter on the face of their proceedings, the " Court of Directors may poſſibly conceive an idea of my attentive and faithful ſervices at " the expence of the Committee, or from my repreſentations ſee cauſe to ſuſpect their diſin- " tereſtedneſs and integrity.'

" I could wiſh Mr. Verelſt, and all mankind, to believe that I am above aiming at applauſe " at the expence of other men; for I think my own uniform conduct will ſecure to me that " ſhare of approbation it may hereafter appear to have deſerved. I wrote to the Committee " ſo ſtrenuouſly from a firm hope that they would enter into ſuch effectual meaſures, as to " eradicate this growing evil, and hereafter you will be convinced I have not painted this " grievance in ſtronger colours than the occaſion required.

" You are pleaſed to write me, ' It has been matter of general complaint, that the " attention of moſt of the officers of the army has of late been taken up with commercial " matters more than is conſiſtent with their duty, and when reprehended on this head, they " have not ſcrupled to quote the example of the commanding officer.' I could wiſh to be " informed from whence theſe general complaints have been made: a general accuſation will " fall of itſelf when unſupported by proofs; the conduct of the officers of that part of the " army, which has been under my immediate inſpection, does not deſerve ſo ſevere a reflection, " and the excellent ſtate of thoſe troops is the beſt proof of my aſſertion; and from the " review which I have lately made of my regiment, and the few ſepoys remaining here of " the ſecond brigade, it clearly appears to me that there has been no want of diligence in the " commanding officer, nor of attention in thoſe of an inferior ſtation. As to the officers " on the Purgunnah eſtabliſhment, I know not how they conduct themſelves: they appear to " have no military ſuperior whatſoever. That the very being of the Company depends in " great meaſure upon the ſtate of the army, is moſt certain; my ſentiments on the preſent " ſtate of it will hereafter appear; in the mean time, if you will be pleaſed to point out " thoſe who have neglected their duty from an attention to commercial affairs, or even thoſe " who have been in any wiſe concerned in a mercantile ſyſtem, I will aſſure you of my beſt " endeavours to put a ſtop to this practice, which I by no means approve.

" How far, and by what inducements, I engaged in commerce, I will now relate.—You " muſt remember when I was ſworn a member of the Council, the duſtuck oath was tendered " to me; the whole Board muſt remember I then declined taking that oath, becauſe I never " had, nor ever intended to enter into any commercial ſchemes, as I conſidered commerce to " be incompatible with my profeſſion; doubtleſs, you muſt alſo remember that ſoon after " this, you yourſelf obſerved to me (and I will ſuppoſe with a very friendly intention) that " you thought I was wrong in giving up the greateſt, and indeed only advantage from my " new appointment: I obſerved, that I did not wiſh to ſee any commerce whatſoever carried " on by the officers of the army; and, although I was intitled to the privilege of a duſtuck, " yet I did not chuſe to ſet the example; you replied, that General Carnac had been con- " cerned in trade, which was carried on by yourſelf (I think you mentioned, but am not " certain) or others on his account, and that you adviſed me to be concerned with Mr. Ruſ- " ſell, who would tranſact theſe affairs for me.

" I thanked you for your advice, and ſaid I would conſider of it; I reflected that my pre- " deceſſor had received large emoluments from his ſtation, perhaps £.30,000 for two years, " that the Company's orders had taken away the only emolument which I could expect to " receive in their ſervice, and thereby reduced all my appointments to the ſcanty pittance of " 700l. per annum, beſides defraying my field expences; that neither the Company at " home, nor Lord Clive abroad, had made the leaſt proviſion for the commander in chief " of the forces. Thus ſituated, I thought I might endeavour, with ſome degree of pro- " priety, to increaſe my capital by a commercial ſyſtem, carried on by a friend, who was a " member of the Board, and who was ſo obliging as to take that trouble for me: of this you

" was

" was informed, and ſoon after I took the duſtuck oath. Here then is explained the cauſes " and motives which induced me to engage in commerce; and now you are to be informed " how far I have engaged in it.—Our firſt eſſay was in the purchaſe of your ſhare of the car- " goes of cotton from Surat, at an advance of fifty thouſand rupees upon the prime coſt, by " which purchaſe you will do me the juſtice to ſay I have not gained any advantage. My " ſecond adventure was of ſundry articles exported by the Company, and bought at their " ſales, for which your duſtuck was granted to the limits of the provinces; theſe articles " were ſold many months ſince, but not before I diſcovered that this commercial ſyſtem, if " purſued, would engroſs too much of my time from more important occupations; I there- " fore dropped all thoughts of proſecuting the plan; and, as I had ſeveral gentlemen of my " family who had merited well, both from the public and from me, gentlemen whom I wiſhed " to ſerve, but wanted any other means of doing it; amongſt them I divided the profits of " this adventure, as I purpoſe doing by whatever emolument may ariſe from the advance of " 25,000 rupees made on my account at the aurungs in Bengal.

" It only remains for me to treat of my third and laſt attempt, the ſalt petre concern—You " muſt remember that this article of commerce was mentioned to you, both by Mr. Ruſſell " and me, when I was at Calcutta; you ſo far approved the ſcheme, that at the deſire of Mr. " Ruſſell you wrote a letter to Sujah Dowlah, to requeſt he would grant that Gentleman's " gomaſtah the excluſive privilege of purchaſing ſalt petre in his dominions.—This letter " Mr. Ruſſell incloſed to me; I received it at Monyhyr, when on my journey to Allahabad; " and when the Nabob paid me a viſit on my arrival there, I delivered to him your letter, and " ſeconded your requeſt; at that time nothing was ſettled, but the Nabob deſired Iſmael Beg " to attend him to Fyſabad, for the adjuſtment of this matter. Some time after a purwannah " was granted to him, for an excluſive privilege of making ſalt petre throughout the Nabob's " dominions, upon condition that he ſupplied the Nabob with whatever quantity he required " at prime coſt; and as Iſmael Beg was recommended to this employment by me, you may " ſuppoſe that Mr. Ruſſell and myſelf would have had the refuſal of whatever quantity was " made, above that which the Nabob ſhould require for his own uſe, and this to be delivered " at the Carumnaſſah.

" In conſequence of this purwannah, Iſmael Beg began to make his engagements for the manu- " facturing of ſalt petre after the rains ſhould have ſubſided, but in the interim aroſe thoſe ſuſpicions " of the duplicity of Sujah Dowlah's conduct: the bare poſſibility of his meditating hoſtili- " ties gave me the alarm; for being convinced how faithfully we had fulfilled our engagements " to him, and reflecting, that as he could have no juſt ground to alledge for a rupture with " us, he muſt therefore ſeek a pretext to give ſome colouring to his own conduct, and it was " not impoſſible but that ſuch a man might repreſent to the world, this purwannah, which " was his own free grant, to have been obtained from him by improper ſolicitation; no ſooner " did this ſuggeſtion ſtrike me, but I deſired Iſmael Beg to ſuſpend the commencement of " his manufacture; and when I viſited the Nabob, you already know that a final ſtop was " put to this affair. I have only to add, that I do not know of any ſalt petre having been " made under the ſanction of this purwannah, and I can affirm, that not a ſingle particle " has been received—Here, Sir, is the hiſtory of Iſmael Beg, and the ſalt petre purwannah.

" And now, Sir, I cannot avoid teſtifying my extreme ſurpriſe at your query—' If, on " the contrary, they ſecond your remonſtrance with that degree of vigour you tell them it " ſhould, by reſolving to detect and puniſh every aggreſſor, may not your name happen to " ſtand recorded at the head of the liſt?' Upon what part of my conduct, Sir, can you " found ſuch a queſtion? Wherein have I acted differently from you? Could I conceive " the purchaſing of ſalt petre in Sujah Dowlah's dominions to be fundamentally wrong, " when you yourſelf wrote to Sujah Dowlah, in favour of Mr. Ruſſell's gomaſtah? Could I " conceive it to be a prohibited commerce, when you yourſelf encouraged it? Could I " imagine it contrary to the regulation of the Select Committee, when you, who preſided " in that Committee, made uſe of your influence to introduce it?

" I little expected that you, Sir, would have been the perſon to ſuggeſt that Iſmael Beg " was employed to raiſe the ſalt petre trade into a monopoly throughout the greateſt part of " the Nabob's dominions; had Iſmael Beg, in conſequence of the Nabob's grant, been the " only manufacturer of ſalt petre in his territories, he would have enjoyed that privilege, " by the permiſſion of him, who alone had the right to grant it.

" That you never granted duſtucks into the Nabob's dominions I moſt ſincerely believe, " but I cannot conceive how it could remain unknown to you that they were granted by " others; for I think there is an expreſs order of the Committee, that all duſtucks or pur- " wannahs ſhall be regiſtered, and monthly returns made from the ſeveral factories to the " cuſtom houſe at Calcutta; and the ſmalleſt reference to thoſe records would have ſhewn " you, that duſtucks had been frequently granted from Patna and Muxadavad, for every " ſpecies of merchandize into the Nabob Sujah Dowlah's country.

" Senſible that my repreſentations to the Board of the 3d ultimo was made upon the moſt " mature deliberation, and confident that no one action of mine ſtands in need of conceal- " ment, however friendly may be your expreſſions of concern upon a ſuppoſition *that I have* " *acted in an unguarded manner*, I cannot admit of their propriety, ſince I ſee no cauſe for " their application. And in regard to your declaration, ' That no difference of opinion in " public affairs ſhould have any ſway with you when matters of a private concern are under

" your conſideration,' I can only ſay that it is a worthy ſentiment, but it cannot have the " ſmalleſt reference to me, as it is impoſſible for you, as Governor of this ſettlement, with " propriety, to countenance, or for me, as Commander in chief, with conſiſtency, to be " connected in, any tranſaction which requires privacy on my part, or connivance on yours.

" How far I have ever engaged in mercantile affairs you have been fully informed; and " as I am above palliating an error in judgment, I will frankly confeſs to you that it is the " only part of my conduct which I cannot approve upon reflection; not that I had any cauſe " whatſoever to judge this tranſaction deſerving of cenſure in itſelf, but for an example it " diſplays to others, who might not reflect, that my being a member of the Council ad- " mitted me to privileges no other military man could enjoy.—It is now ſixteen years ſince I " bore a military commiſſion in this ſervice, and where is the man who can ſay I ever had a " commercial concern, until it was ſuggeſted to me by you? I was, however, ſoon con- " vinced of my error, and as ſoon I renounced all thoughts of increaſing my fortune on " mercantile principles; and, Sir, I dare appeal to you, and to the whole world, whether I " have manifeſted the leaſt avidity for wealth; but, on the contrary, the opportunities I " have had of acquiring a very large fortune are notoriouſly known: it is equally known, " that I have not availed myſelf in the ſmalleſt degree of thoſe opportunities, but have pre- " ferred mediocrity and an unblemiſhed reputation.

" The time is now approaching when you will be fully informed what opinion I have " conceived of your conduct towards me—My letter of yeſterday's date to the Select Com- " mittee, requeſted their permiſſion for me to return to the Preſidency, that I might prepare " for my embarkation to Europe.—When cool reflection ſhall baniſh haſty prejudice, when " jealouſies and ſuſpicions can no longer be entertained, then perhaps it may appear that you " have judged of me and my actions through a falſe medium, and conducted yourſelf ac- " cordingly. How much I endeavoured to obtain your confidence I will freely acknowledge, " and it was becauſe I could foreſee that the welfare of the Company was very nearly inter- " eſted in a good underſtanding between the Governor and Commander in chief; and the " events of the laſt year have juſtified my opinion. How well you have adhered to the de- " clarations you made to me in perſon, will appear hereafter; in the mean time I have an " honour to profeſs myſelf, with great reſpect,

(Signed) " R. SMITH."

Q. Did Sujah Dowlah iſſue the orders for the removal of the Armenian gomaſtahs in general from his dominions?

A. The orders were iſſued by the Select Committee; but ſome months prior to thoſe orders Sujah Dowlah had applied for a guard to take up ſome people at Banaras, as appears by a letter from Captain Harper of the 6th January 1768; as follows:

" To Colonel Richard Smith, Commander in Chief of the Forces.

" Sir, The Nabob Sujah Dowlah has applied to me for a guard to apprehend ſome people " at Banaras, who, under pretence of being ſervants to Engliſh Gentlemen, are commit- " ting all manner of diſturbances. I have not complied with his Excellency's requeſt, and " wait your orders to know whether I may ſend the guard he deſires, or not. I have the " honour to be, with great reſpect, Sir,

" Camp near Fyſabad, " Your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,
" the 6 January 1768." (Signed) " GABRIEL HARPER."

Q. Who were thoſe Gentlemen?

A. There was ſo many I cannot particularize them.

Q. Did Sujah Dowlah make any repreſentation to you againſt the gomaſtahs of the Engliſh preceding January 1768?

A. I think that is the firſt repreſentation that Sujah Dowlah made to me in perſon, but not the firſt that Bulwantſing made.

Q. What was the date of Bulwantſing's firſt repreſentation to you?

A. I cannot charge my memory with the exact date—they were made in perſon, and by his vakeels, but not in writing.

Q. Did you acquaint the Governor and Council with thoſe repreſentations of Bulwantſing?

A. I endeavoured to remedy them myſelf as commander in chief of that province. I do not recollect any repreſentation to the Council prior to the 3d of January.

Q. Do you know of any mal-practices committed by Cogee Gregore or Cogee Rafael?

A. I don't know them perſonally.

Q. Had you ever any repreſentations againſt them by name?

A. Many.

Q. Pleaſe to ſtate them.

A Repreſentations from Bulwantſing, and complaints from Sujah Dowlah, that they carried on a forced trade in that country without any kind of reſtraint, paying no duties, and without obedience to the country government.

Q. Were the repreſentations in writing?

A. Not in writing.

Q. Was Bulwantſing's repreſentation againſt Rafael and Cogee Gregore by name?

A. I cannot particularly recollect, but think I remember the name of Rafael, but believe they

they were comprehended in the general complaints againſt the Armenians.—I knew them more by the name of Mr. Bolts's gomaſtahs than by any other name—Mr. Bolts's gomaſtahs were particularly ſpecified.

Q. Do you recollect the names of any of Mr. Bolts's gomaſtahs?

A. No.

Q. Was this converſation with Bulwantſing before you went up to Illahabad?

A. The firſt time was in 1767—there were many after.

Q. Do you know by whom the viziery rupees were coined, and what was the alloy?

A. I never had any thing to do with any mint.

Q. In what coin was the Mogul's ſtipend paid?

A. I will anſwer that when the matter comes before the Committee.

Q. Did you ever receive a letter from Mr. Maddiſon, reſident at the durbar, particularly naming thoſe Armenians?

A. I never had any correſpondence with him when he was reſident.

Q. Did you know Mr. Gentil?

A. I did—he was a Frenchman, who received his ſubſiſtence from Sujah Dowlah—I apprehend he reſided there to acquire intelligence of the European ſettlements: he was much in his favour, but I believe held no oſtenſible office.

Q. Do you know of a letter from Mr. Bolts to Mr. Gentil, which you tranſmitted to the Committee of Calcutta?

A. A copy of it was ſent to me, and I thought it of ſo extraordinary a nature, that I looked upon it as my indiſpenſable duty to tranſmit it to the Committee—afterwards I obtained the original, which I alſo tranſmitted to the Committee.

Q. Do you know of any renunciation of the 8th article of the treaty with Sujah Dowlah, ſtipulating a freedom in trade?

A. I believe I do—I underſtood that the noble Lord Clive gave it up to Sujah Dowlah—I have it only from hearſay.

Mercurii, 13° die Maii, 1772.

Col. Burgoyne in the Chair; Preſent,

Mr. Johnſtone,	Sir John Turner,
Mr. Fuller,	Mr. Vane,
Mr. Strachey,	Mr. Sutton,
Mr. Rice,	Mr. Ongley,
Sir Wm. Meredith	Mr. Cornwall.

Mr. Bolts produced nine purwannahs granted him by Sujah Dowla, relative to ſalt petre, which were proved by Gonyſhamdaſs, who ſaid they were exactly the ſame in ſubſtance, only directed to different people.

1ſt, To Futteh Ally Khawn.
2d, — Rajah Bulwantſing.
3d, — Golaum Huſſon Khawn.
4th, — Roy Deendayal.
5th, — Rajah Bowanyſing.
6th, — Noor Mahomed Beg Khawn Bahadr.
7th, — Heydarbeg Khan Bahadr.
8th, — Ray Kerpadayal.
9th, — Ally Beg Khan Bahadr.

The purport of the purwannahs was tranſlated and read as follows:

" To the High in dignity, beloved and powerful Meer Futteh Ally Khawn Bahadr, be he " protected Upon the arrival of this purwannah, the ſum of 3000 rupees, from yourſelf, " having given to the ſalt petre makers, and having got the ſalt petre made ready and de- " livered to Goaldaſs, the gomaſtah of Mr. Bolts, and having taken a receipt from him, " ſend it to my preſence. Next time the ſaid ſum, according to the receipt, and this pur- " wannah, ſhall be credited in the account of your farm.

" Written on the 28 of the month Zilkaad, 1180th year of the Higerah. (Decem- " ber 1767.) (Signed) " BAYER."

The Nabob's ſeal. (Signed) " It is ſeen."

Johannes Padre Rafael being then queſtioned, declared—that he never was in the territories of Bulwantſing as a gomaſtah—that he had not ſold any thing in the year 1767 for Mr. Bolts at Fyſabad, where he was a ſervant to Sujah Dowla, and had 3600 rupees a year.

Gregore Cojamaul likewiſe being queſtioned, declared he never was at Sujah Dowlah's court—never was above Banaras; and that Banaras is 120 miles from Fyſabad.

General Smith.

Q. From your knowledge of the country, are you of opinion that the general orders for recalling the gomaſtahs of the Engliſh were proper or neceſſary?

A. The repreſentation that I made to the Council upon the 3d January 1768, is very ſtrong, and very pointed to that purpoſe—I thought it abſolutely neceſſary to recall them.

Q. Was Captain Harper one of thoſe among whom you ſaid you diſtributed your profits of trade?

A. Captain Harper had ſerved me as an aid-de-camp and ſecretary for two years, and he was one of thoſe to whom the diſtribution was made.

The

The Committee then read part of the proceedings of the Governor and Council at Bengal, at a conſultation held the 3d May 1764; as follows:

The Board drew up the following general opinion.

" Every method has been tried for carrying on the inland trade upon ſuch a footing as to " prevent diſputes between our agents and the country government, or between one agent " and another; and for deciding, in a juſt and reaſonable manner, ſuch as might unavoida- " bly happen. Having experienced the obſtructions to which that trade would be liable if " the officers of the country government were admitted to any authority over the Engliſh " agents, it was reſolved in conſultation the 5th March 1763, that the chief of the neareſt " Engliſh factory ſhould finally determine all ſuch diſputes, and as the Rungpore, Dinage- " pore, and adjacent diſtricts, where a very conſiderable part of this inland trade centers, " appeared to be too far removed from any of our factories to admit of ſuch enquiry being " made in a ſatisfactory and accurate manner; for this reaſon, principally, it was agreed, " that a ſenior ſervant ſhould be appointed to reſide at Rungpore, who ſhould have power to " hear and determine all diſputes.

" No ſooner is this reſolution carried into practice, than ſome of the Engliſh agents com- " plain as loudly of injuries ſuffered from the authority of the Engliſh reſident, as they did " before of the Nabob's government.

" Shall there then be no government, no reſtraint upon thoſe exceſſes, which either igno- " rance, paſſion, or ſelf-intereſt, may lead an Engliſh agent to commit in the country? " This is really the caſe at preſent; and although it is very certain that ſome of the Gentle- " men employed are of unexceptionable character, and whoſe good behaviour might be de- " pended on, yet many there are of a contrary diſpoſition; but there need not many arguments " to prove, that both the good and the bad ſhould be under ſome law; yet if we examine the " caſe of the Engliſh agents up the country, we ſhall find they are under none. Our " charter does not authorize our courts to take cognizance of any crimes they might commit " in theſe parts: and it has been laid down as a fundamental principle, that the country " government ſhall have no power of them.

" We need not look further for the root of that licentiouſneſs which has produced ſuch " innumerable complaints from the country government, and the inhabitants in thoſe parts " where European agents have been ſent: it can now no longer be doubted, that many of thoſe " complaints have been well grounded, particularly in the article of felling goods by force " for more than the current market price: a practice called in this country Barja or Gu- " chavut.

" All the power we can give the chiefs of our factories over theſe agents will be very " inſufficient to remedy this diſorder, ſince we have in reality none ourſelves; and therefore, " diſagreeable as it is, to deprive ſo many of our nation of the benefits they now receive, by " being employed as agents in the country, yet it ſeems an unavoidable neceſſity, and for the " ſake of the public tranquillity and welfare muſt be adopted, and the trade carried on for " the future by black gomaſtahs, who may be tried and puniſhed by our court of zemindary, " if they commit any exceſſes or acts of injuſtice; and that power delegated, as far as ſhall " appear neceſſary, to the chiefs of the ſubordinate factories.

" It will be objected by thoſe concerned in the inland trade, that gomaſtahs will be liable " to be oppreſſed by the country government, who have taken, and will take, every oppor- " tunity of reſtraining us from that trade which they regard as an innovation; this objection " we believe is very juſt, and we ſhall expect that many difficulties will be found in the be- " ginning in carrying on this trade by gomaſtahs, but theſe we think may be ſurmounted by " proper application to the Nabob and his officers; and, upon the whole, are of opinion, " that all private inconveniences muſt be ſubmitted to, even the riſque of being entirely de- " prived of the trade, rather than ſuffer the inhabitants of the country to be oppreſſed by an " abuſe of the Engliſh name.

" It is therefore the opinion of the Board, and reſolved, that all the European, Portu- " gueſe natives, and Armenian agents, which are now up the country, ſhall have notice " given them to ſettle their concerns, ſo as to return to Calcutta by the 30th November next, " and that after that time, no European ſhall be permitted to go up the country under any " pretence whatſoever, or any other agents be employed in our trade but Bengal natives."

The Committee alſo read the following paragraphs of a letter from the Court of Directors to their Preſident and Council in Bengal, dated the 8th February 1764; viz.

Parag. 20. " One grand ſource of the diſputes, miſunderſtandings, and difficulties, " which have occurred with the country government, appears evidently to have taken its " riſe from the unwarrantable and licentious manner of carrying on the private trade by the " Company's ſervants, their gomaſtahs, agents, and others, to the prejudice of the ſoubah, " both with reſpect to his authority and the revenues juſtly due to him; the diverting and " taking from his natural ſubjects the trade in the inland parts of the country, to which " neither we or any perſons whatſoever dependant upon us, or under our protection, have " any manner of right, and conſequently endangering the Company's very valuable privi- " leges. In order therefore to remedy all theſe diſorders, we do hereby poſitively order and " direct,"

Parag. 21. " That from the receipt of this letter, a final and effectual end be forthwith " put to the inland trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, tobacco, and in all other articles whatſoever

" produced

" duced and conſumed in the country; and that all European and other agents or gomaſtahs, " who have been concerned in ſuch trade, be immediately ordered down to Calcutta, and " not ſuffered to return or be replaced as ſuch by any other perſons."

Parag. 22d. " That as our phirmaund privileges of being duty free, are certainly confined " to the Company's export and import trade only, you are to have recourſe to, and keep " within, the liberty therein ſtipulated and given, as nearly as poſſible can be done; but as " by the connivance of the Bengal government and conſtant uſage, the Company's cove- " nant ſervants have had the ſame benefit as the Company, with reſpect to their export and " import trade, we are willing they ſhould enjoy the ſame, and that duſtucks be granted " accordingly; but herein the moſt effectual care is to be taken that no exceſſes or abuſes are " ſuffered upon any account whatſoever, nor duſtucks granted to any others than our cove- " nant ſervants as aforeſaid. However, notwithſtanding any of our former orders, no wri- " ter is to have the benefit of a duſtuck, until he has ſerved out his full time of five years in " that ſtation; free merchants and others are not entitled to, or to have the benefit of, the " Company's duſtucks, but are to pay the uſual duties."

Parag. 23d. " As no agents or gomaſtahs are to reſide on account of private trade at any of " the inland parts of the country, all buſineſs on account of licenſed private trade, is to be " carried on by and through the means of the Company's covenant ſervants reſident at the " ſeveral ſubordinate factories, as has been uſual."

Parag. 24th. " We are under the neceſſity of giving the before-going orders, in order to " preſerve the tranquillity of the country, and harmony with the Nabob; they are rather " outlines than complete directions, which you are to add to, and improve upon, agreeable " to the ſpirit of, and our meaning in them, as may be neceſſary to anſwer the deſired pur- " poſes: and, if any perſon or perſons are guilty of a contravention of them, be they whom- " ſoever they may; if our own ſervants, they are to be diſmiſſed the ſervice; if others, the " Company's protection is to be withdrawn, and you have the liberty of ſending them forth- " with to England, if you judge the nature of the offence requires it."

Read alſo the following paragraphs of a ſeparate general letter from the Court of Directors of the Eaſt-India Company to their Preſident and Council in Bengal, dated the 24 December 1765; viz.

Parag. 10th. " Your deliberations on the inland trade have laid open to us a ſcene of moſt " cruel oppreſſion, which is indeed exhibited at one view of the 13th article of the Nabob's " complaints, mentioned thus in your conſultation of the 17th October 1764: ' The poor " of this country, who uſed always to deal in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, are now deprived " of their daily bread by the trade of the Europeans, whereby no kind of advantage accrues " to the Company, and the Government's revenues are greatly injured.' We ſhall for the " preſent obſerve to you, that every one of our ſervants concerned in this trade, has been " guilty of a breach of his covenants, and a diſobedience to our orders. In your conſulta- " tions of the 3d of May, we find among the various extortionate practices, the moſt extra- " ordinary one of burjaut, or forcing the natives to buy goods beyond the market price, " which you there acknowledge to have been frequently practiſed."

Parag. 11th. " In your reſolution to prevent this practice, you determine to forbid it, " but ' with ſuch care and diſcretion as not to affect the Company's inveſtment, as you do not " mean to invalidate the right derived to the Company from their phirmaund, which they " have always held over their weavers:' as the Company are known to purchaſe their inveſt- " ment by ready money only, we require a full explanation how this can affect them, or " how it ever could have been practiſed in the purchaſe of their inveſtment, which the latter " part of Mr. Johnſton's minute, entered on conſultation the 21ſt July 1764, inſinuates; " for it would almoſt juſtify a ſuſpicion that the goods of our ſervants have been put off to " the weavers, in part payment of the Company's inveſtment; therefore we direct you to " make a rigid ſcrutiny into this affair, that we may know if any of our ſervants, or thoſe " employed under them, have been guilty of ſuch a breach of truſt, that their names and all " the circumſtances may be known to us."

Parag. 12. " We alſo order you to give us the particular inſtances which have confirmed " you in your opinion, that the burjaut has been practiſed, that we may know whoſe agents " they were, and whether the agents who practiſed it, were countenanced and protected in " it by their maſters."

Parag. 13. " Mr. Johnſtone's minute or conſultation the 21ſt July 1764, cannot eſcape " our notice; wherein he ſays, ' The ſupport of theſe, and our other privileges, in their " full extent, againſt the uſurpation of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy war; " and after ſo many valuable lives loſt in the defence of them, I ſhall ever be againſt parting " with them, or hazarding the loſs of them without greater and better cauſe than has yet " appeared, and till after we have found by experience, that all other remedies are in vain."

Parag. 14th. " As the privileges here meant principally relate to the unwarranted inland " trade, in which our own ſervants have been ſo generally concerned greatly to the prejudice " of the Company, by involving their affairs in diſtreſſes and difficulties, and manifeſtly " injurious to the country government, of which every one of you cannot but be fully " ſenſible; we ſay, we cannot avoid taking notice of the ſaid opinion, as by it Mr. John- " ſtone ſeems to perſevere in all events to prefer the private intereſt of individuals to the " general good, ſo far as reſpects the ſaid inland trade.—If Mr. Johnſtone continues in theſe

" ſentiments, as from the general tenor of his conduct we have too much reaſon to appre-
" hend, he cannot but be looked upon as a dangerous ſervant; therefore, if he, or any
" other perſons ſhall perſiſt in carrying on a trade, which, as before obſerved, has been
" attended with ſo many bad conſequences, we would have him or them diſmiſſed the Com-
" pany's ſervice."

Parag. 15. " We ſhall ſay nothing further at preſent on the inland trade, till that import-
" ant ſubject ſhall have been taken up by Lord Clive, and the Gentlemen of the Select Com-
" mittee; only to obſerve, that the regulation propoſed in conſultation 17th October 1764,
" of confining the trade of our ſervants in the article of ſalt, to the capital cities of Patna,
" Dacca, and Murſhedabad, on paying the Nabob two and a half per cent. is a manifeſt
" diſobedience of our orders of the 8th February, then under your deliberation, which poſi-
" tively forbid all trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco; nor does it by any means obviate
" the objections ariſing from the diſtreſs of the poor, and the injury to his revenues; for, if
" you pay only two and a half per cent. and the country people twenty, or perhaps forty
" per cent. it is as much a monopoly as ever.

Parag. 16. " For other licenſed trade, we think it neceſſary to eſtabliſh, that all trade to
" be carried on within the provinces where factories are eſtabliſhed, ſhall be carried on by
" our ſervants at ſuch factories, and their agents only, who ſhall tranſact the buſineſs of our
" other ſervants, on receiving the eſtabliſhed commiſſion; and on any refuſal to accept ſuch
" commiſſion, or any tendency to monopolize, the ſervants at Calcutta, or other parts, are at
" liberty to ſend their own black gomaſtahs, who are nevertheleſs to be accountable for their
" conduct to the Company's ſervants within whoſe juriſdiction they reſide.—All diſtricts not
" comprehended within the juriſdiction of each ſubordinate, ſhall be conſidered as within
" the juriſdiction of the Board of Calcutta.—That no duſtuck ſhall be given but for articles
" of import and export, as was formerly practiſed, and you are to ſend us a liſt of whatever
" falls under this denomination."

Read alſo, part of the proceedings of the Preſident and Select Committee at Bengal, of the 11 May 1765, viz.

" The Select Committee, obſerving with regret the contempt ſhewn for the poſitive and
" repeated orders of the Governor and Council for recalling free merchants reſiding up the
" country,

" Reſolve, That the former orders on that head be now enforced, and letters diſpatched
" to the chiefs of the ſeveral ſubordinates, requiring them, at the expiration of one month
" after notice given, to convey in ſafety to Calcutta, all who refuſe to comply with a mea-
" ſure ſo ſalutary to the Company, and neceſſary to the peace and good order of the country.

" Being informed alſo, that a great number of Europeans, ſtragglers from ſhips, and
" others, who have no claim from indentures to any ſhare of the Company's countenance or
" protection, are variouſly employed up the country, and diſperſed all over the Nabob's do-
" minions, to the great prejudice of the Company, and moleſtation of the natives;

" Reſolved, They be immediately ſecured and brought to Calcutta.

" The Committee finding ſome difficulty in procuring an exact account of the names of
" ſuch Europeans;

" Agreed, That the chiefs of the ſubordinate factories be made acquainted with the re-
" ſolutions of the Committee, and required to tranſmit, without delay, the moſt accurate
" liſts in their power of all Europeans not immediately in the Company's ſervice, who reſide
" in or about their reſpective diſtricts."

Read alſo the following reſolution of the Governor and Council of Bengal, at a conſulta-tion held the 20th May 1765, viz.

" Agreed and ordered, in conſequence of the proceedings of the Committee laid before
" the Board laſt council day, that public advertiſements be made, enforcing our orders
" already given for the return of the Engliſh, Portugueſe, and Armenian agents, em-
" ployed in the different parts of the country, to the Preſidency, and requiring all whoever
" moſt ſtrictly to arrive by the firſt of Auguſt, and their conſtituents to give them due notice
" accordingly."

Read alſo a letter from the Select Committee of Bengal, dated the 26th July 1765, ac-companying an advertiſement as tranſmitted to Dacca, and the reſt of the ſubordinates, as follows; viz.

" To John Cartier, Eſquire, Chief at Dacca.

" Sir, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Preſident and the members of the
" Select Committee, to requeſt that you will order the accompanying advertiſement to be
" circulated among the ſeveral free merchants and other Europeans, reſiding in and about
" Dacca, as far as the influence of the government and factory extends, and that you will
" procure the moſt exact account in your power of their names and places of abode, which
" you will pleaſe to tranſmit to the Select Committee before the expiration of the time
" ſpecified in the advertiſement. I have the honour to be, Sir,

" Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
(Signed) " ALEX. CAMPBELL,
" S. S. C."

" Fort William,
" the 26th July 1765."

" By

" By order of the Right Honourable the Prefident and the members of the Select Com-
" mittee.

" Public notice is hereby given, that the liberty of refiding up the country, lately granted
" to free merchants and others, for collecting and finally fettling their concerns, will
" pofitively ceafe, and the Company's protection be wholly withdrawn, on the 21ft day of
" October next, it being the abfolute determination of the Select Committee, not to extend
" their indulgence beyond that period, nor to fuffer any violation of the Company's repeated
" orders for recalling free merchants, &c.

" It is therefore to be hoped that fuch public and early advertifement of the intentions of
" the Committee will prevent all perfons concerned from incurring the evil confequences
" that may enfue to them and their conftituents from a difregard to this actual repeal of the
" Company's protection, or from a refractory behaviour and pofitive act of difobedience to
" the Honourable Court of Directors.

" Fort William, the 26 July 1765."

Read alfo a letter to the Secretary of the Select Committee from Mr. Francis Hare, as follows; viz.

" To Alexander Campbell, Efquire, Secretary to the Select Committee.

" Sir, In confequence of your favour of the 26th ultimo, I caufed the advertifement you
" inclofed to be circulated amongft the free merchants refiding in Patna and its diftricts,
" whofe names are as follow:

" Meffieurs Bryan Scotney,
" Jofeph Hare,
" Alexander Jephfon,
" William Hutchinfon,
" John Hutchinfon,
" George Lear,
" ——— Barrow.

" Mr. Peter Hare, who is in my employ at a place called Boggi, under the Subahdary of
" Patna, has alfo received notice to repair to Calcutta within the time limited by the Com-
" mittee. I am, Sir,

" Your moft obedient fervant,

" Patna, Auguft 27th 1765. (Signed)

" Francis Hare."

The Committee then read part of the proceedings of the Select Committee in Bengal, dated the 5th October 1765, as follows:

" Obferving that our orders to the chiefs of the fubordinates to fend lifts to the Committee
" of all Europeans refiding within their feveral diftricts, who are not in the Company's ser-
" vice, have been neglected;

" Refolved, That we now repeat the above orders, requiring them pofitively not only to
" fend the moft accurate lifts in their power, but the perfons themfelves to Calcutta, by the
" 21ft inftant, at which time the Company's protection will abfolutely ceafe, and they muft
" ftand to all the confequences of being left entirely in the power of the country govern-
" ment."

Read alfo the following letter from A. W. fenior, to the Prefident and Select Committee, dated at Coffimbuzar, the 23d October 1765, viz.

" To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Prefident, &c. Members Select Committee.

" My Lord and Gentlemen,

" I have been favoured with your letter of the 7th inftant, and fhall pay due attention to
" the orders therein contained.

" I fhould have immediately complied with your former directions by fending down a lift
" of the Europeans and other merchants under our protection refiding within thefe diftricts,
" but was not able to procure an exact one; however I have now inclofed a lift of fuch as
" have come to my knowledge, and who have all had timely notice given of your orders:
" befides thefe there are many Europeans, as well as Portugueſe and Armenians, who refide
" at the city of Muxadavad, but I don't find they have any employ at all, and they appear
" to me to be rather under the Nabob's protection than ours.

" I am,
" My Lord, and Gentlemen,
" Your moft obedient,
" humble fervant,
" A. W. Senior.

" Coffimbuzar,
" 23d October 1765."

" A lift

" A liſt of European agents and others under the Engliſh protection reſiding at the fol-
" lowing places, viz.

" Mr. Hargrave
" Mr. Gundeſtrope } at Chilmary.
" Dr. Waſmus

" Mr. Maultby at Seebgunge.
" Mr. Galloway at Couregong.

" Captain Ivie
" Mr. Woodaſon
" Philip Pollock
" Do his ſon-in-law } at Ragegunge.
" Demetruſs
" Doutie

" One writer at Dewangunge } In Captain Amyatt's ſervice.
" Two Do at Bagon Barry

" N. B. There are ſeveral free merchants who do not come under the name of agents,
" but live entirely with the following Gentlemen at their houſes as clerks, and have not,
" nor have had, any other employ.

" Mr. William Walker—with Mr. Jekyll, at Rungpore.
" Mr. James Dixon—with Mr. Goring, at Comarcolly.
" Mr. Samuel Whitby—with Mr. Wright, at Coſſimbuzar."

And your Committee then cloſed the evidence upon the petition of the ſaid Gregore Cojamaul.

REPORT

FROM THE

COMMITTEE

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO

The NATURE, STATE, and CONDITION

OF THE

EAST INDIA COMPANY,

AND OF THE

BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE *EAST INDIES.*

LONDON:
Printed for T. Evans, No. 54, Paternoſter Row.
M.DCC.LXXIII.

REPORT

REPORT

FROM THE

COMMITTEE, &c.

THE Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition of the East India Company, and of the British affairs in the East Indies, having determined, as the most proper means of fulfilling the Orders of the House, to continue the plan of proceeding which they had adopted in the last Session of Parliament, resumed their inquiry into the objects stated under the third head of that plan; viz, To pursue by historical deduction the state of affairs in India, the manner in which the present possessions in that country were acquired, and the different transactions attending those acquisitions, beginning with the transactions of Bengal, and dividing them into three periods; viz. From the establishment of the present Company, to the completion of the revolution in the year 1757, from thence to the assuming the Dewannee, in the year 1765, and from thence to the present time; and in each period respectively to state the situation of the Company's affairs, and the material parts of the conduct of the Company's servants, with respect to the powers entrusted with them by the Company, in the civil and military departments, in administration of justice, in the accepting of presents, in the management of trade, and in the revenues and coinage.

And your Committee having in their former proceedings begun to inquire into the conduct of the Company's servants, with regard to the delivering up of Ramneram, who had been naib, or deputy governor of Patna, under Jaffier Ally Cawn, and was continued through the influence of the English in his naibship under Coffim Ally Cawn, the succeeding nabob; the first business they entered upon was to finish that inquiry.

But the Committee remarking, that the information the house has yet received relative to that matter, is only from a transcript of their minutes of last year, which the shortness of the time obliged them to lay crude before the House; and wherein neither the heads of evidence are properly arranged, nor the purposes for which the evidence was adduced are stated; they thought it necessary in this place to mention, that they conceived the transactions concerning Ramneram to be of material consequence in their inquiry; because those transactions have been represented to the Company, by one of their principal servants, as the cause of all others which contributed the most to bring on the war with Coffim Ally Cawn; and by another principal servant it is alleged, that the delivering up of that person was a necessary duty on the part of the Company, in conformity to the just rights of the nabob Coffim Ally Cawn, and the treaty subsisting between him and the Company.

Your

Your Committee have not found any thing upon the records of the Company, reſpecting the original engagements from the Engliſh to Ramnerain; but the Right Honourable Lord Clive, a member of the Committee, being requeſted to relate what were the engagements entered into by Ramnerain with the nabob, he ſaid, there was no engagement in writing: that after his lordſhip was called up to the aſſiſtance of Myr Jaffier, in the beginning of the year 1758, his excellency deſired him to write to Ramnerain, aſſuring him of the Engliſh protection; for that Ramnerain would put confidence in ſuch a letter, but not in one from himſelf, and that he ſhould by that means get poſſeſſion of his perſon and might cut off his head—That his lordſhip told him it was not the cuſtom of the Engliſh to be guilty of ſuch tranſactions, that if he was inclined to reduce him by force of arms he was ready to aſſiſt him, but if he choſe that his lordſhip ſhould make him any promiſes he muſt fulfil them—That the nabob preferred the latter, in conſequence of which his lordſhip wrote to Ramnerain, that if he would come into the preſence, and acknowledge the nabob, he ſhould be kept in his government on the ſame footing as he had been under Serajah Dowlah—That he came accordingly, paid obedience to the nabob, and was confirmed in his government, upon condition that he ſhould pay the nabob Myr Jaffier the ſame rents or tribute as he had paid to Serajah Dowlah; what that was his lordſhip could not tell, but he believed he was to have paid a certain ſum, which might have been increaſed or decreaſed upon various circumſtances—That when he took leave of Myr Jaffier, at his departure for England, he talked over with him the ſtate in which he left the provinces—That he always underſtood that Ramnerain remained in the government at Patna, through the Engliſh protection, much againſt the inclination of Myr Jaffier; and that if his excellency had had any complaints to have made againſt him, he would certainly have made them to his lordſhip; but that none were made.

Your Committee next called William Mᶜ Guire, Eſquire, who having referred, during the courſe of his examination, to ſeveral papers, in order to elucidate his evidence, your Committee have annexed the ſaid papers hereunto N° 1. to 13. And the witneſs informed your Committee, that he arrived at Patna as chief, on the 4th of January 1761, and was diſmiſſed from the chiefſhip the 19th of Auguſt following, conſequently he was not in the ſervice when Ramnerain was delivered up; but the witneſs ſaid he had received orders for delivering him up, which he would not execute—He could not exactly ſay the time at which he received them—That his opinion then was, that Ramnerain ſhould have been ſuſpended the ſervice, but his perſon protected: and that he underſtood, by the term diſmiſſing him (which is uſed in different parts of the written correſpondence) that his guards ſhould be withdrawn, and that he ſhould be totally ſuſpended from all interference in the government till his accounts ſhould be ſettled: And the witneſs further ſaid, that when he was to be diſmiſſed, he underſtood that force if neceſſary was to be uſed, to prevent the nabob's ſeizing him.

And the Committee obſerving, that the witneſs, in his correſpondence with the governor and council, had adviſed that Ramnerain ſhould be delivered over to the cutcheree, or nabob's court of juſtice; and being aſked to explain the reaſons of that advice, he anſwered, That he might be compelled to make up the accounts of the Sircar: That his meaning by the words in his letter to the governor and council of Fort William, dated Patna, 31 July, "For whilſt he finds "your honour, &c. are mediators with the nabob, not to diſhonour him, he knows he cannot "be obliged to comply; and under this ſhelter the nabob muſt go without his accounts," was not to ſubject him to the various methods uſed by the cutcheree, to force perſons by torture to ſettle their accounts. That he had heard of Gentoos killing themſelves to avoid being diſhonoured in that manner. The witneſs further ſaid, That when Ramnerain came into the kellah, previous to his being delivered over to the cutcheree, the nabob's word was not his only protection, he had the protection of the Engliſh; viz. their promiſes that he ſhould not be diſhonoured; and that when he adviſed that he ſhould be turned over to the cutcheree, he conceived him to be ſtill under the protection of the Engliſh: Then being aſked, How Ramnerain could be amenable to the cutcheree, if he was under the Engliſh protection? he ſaid, As having accounts to ſettle with the government: And being further aſked, Whether he meant to have reſiſted any compulſory methods which the nabob might have uſed? he anſwered, The nabob had promiſed not to uſe any ſuch. It further appears, from the evidence of the witneſs (taken at a ſubſequent period of this enquiry, but inſerted here, for the better connection of the ſubject) that the witneſs received from Coſſim Ally Cawn 5,000 mohurs, amounting to between 60 and 70,000 rupees, on delivering the keys of the kellah at Patna, which was a ſhort time previous to the period when Ramnerain was removed from the government of Patna: And the witneſs being queſtioned, at the ſame time of his examination, Whether he ever notified to the court of directors the receipt of this preſent, he declared, He did not. In regard to the collection of rents by Ramnerain, the witneſs ſaid, That he never regularly collected any money, becauſe he foreſaw a time would come when he muſt render an account: That his manner of raiſing money was by receiving preſents from different rajahs to a large amount; and in another part of his evidence, the witneſs ſaid, That the country having been in a ſtate of war for a conſiderable time previous to the deliver-

livering up of Ramnerain, he did not know whether the rents could have been collected under thoſe circumſtances:—And the witneſs being aſked, What Ramnerain was to have paid for the rent of Bahar? he ſaid, He never ſaw any accounts relating thereto, but that ſent him by the council, in which it was ſtated, that he was to pay the nabob of Bengal three lacks of rupees a year; that he was to pay the chout or tribute to the Manarattas, the Jaghiredars, and to keep up a certain number of forces, all which might amount to 40 lacks of rupees a year: That the nabob did not admit that any ſuch agreement had been made; but if it had, Ramnerain could not want a ſum ſufficient to make his payments to the nabob. The witneſs did not know whether Ramnerain had paid any rent in Myr Jaffier's time, though the agreement was ſaid to have been made whilſt he was nabob.

Your Committee think it proper further to add, that the witneſs at the cloſe of his examination deſired it to be underſtood, that though he was under hourly expectation of being diſmiſſed, and had received orders in the intermediate time for delivering up Ramnerain to be brought to ſettle his accounts, by ſuch means as the nabob ſhould think proper; yet he did not deliver him over till the 19th of Auguſt, when he gave him to Mr. Hay under a guard of protection; and that he compromiſed matters with the nabob for 50 lacks of rupees in the beginning of September following.

Your Committee then called General Carnac, a member of the Houſe, who being requeſted to give an account of the affair of Ramnerain, he referred to his letters to the Select Committee and governor and council, copies of which are hereunto annexed, N° 14 and 15; and ſaid, That beſides the offers made him by Rajabullub, as expreſſed in the above letters, he received many large ones from the nabob himſelf, for his aſſiſtance to remove Ramnerain, and had no doubt but that great ones were made to Colonel Coote, who was his ſuperior:—That the offer from the nabob was no ſpecific ſum, but unlimited:—That he could not recollect the terms on which Ramnerain was to hold the naibſhip of Patna, but was certain ſome engagements were entered into by Lord Clive, to ſupport him in the naibat: And being aſked, What were the circumſtances relative to the delivering up of Ramnerain? he ſaid, He concluded that the Engliſh protection was withdrawn from him immediately on the witneſs's leaving Patna, being certain that he was recalled from thence, becauſe the council were conſcious, that ſo long as he was there he would not ſuffer that protection to be withdrawn: That, upon his removal, the military command was placed under the chief of the factory, as was uſual when the commanding officer preſent was not above the rank of a captain; and that he was certain the field officers were called away, that it might be ſo on this occaſion:—That there had not been any diſputes between the civil and military powers previous to his recal, which might account for it:—That there were ſome ſlight differences between Mr. M'Guire and himſelf ſubſequent to it, but none between him and any other perſons: That Ramnerain was put to death by Coſſim Ally Cawn, as well as Rajabullub his competitor, and almoſt every Gentoo in the province of any rank or fortune, moſt of which ſect were well diſpoſed to the Engliſh, and rich.—Then Mr. Vanſittart's minute, 20th July 1761, being read, wherein Ramnerain is ſtated to be highly culpable towards the nabob, and that this conduct had put it out of the power of the preſident and council to protect him longer in ſo ſhameful an injuſtice; (a copy of which is hereunto annexed, N° 16.) The witneſs obſerved, in vindication of Ramnerain, that the province of Bahar had been a ſcene of war and deſolation the whole preceding year: That the Shahdazah had remaining in the province with a numerous army, ſo that all reſources from thence were cut off: And being aſked, whether Ramnerain owed conſiderable ſums to Coſſim Ally Cawn at the time he was delivered up? he ſaid He firmly believed not; becauſe as Lord Clive left Bengal the beginning of 1760, and had an audience to take leave before his departure, the witneſs conceived, if Ramnerain had been in arrear to the nabob to any conſiderable amount, the nabob would not have failed taking notice of it to his lordſhip. And being aſked, If he had heard of the Shahzadah having made any offers to Ramnerain during his invaſion of the Bahar province, if he would deliver up the city of Patna to him? he ſaid, He could not particularly recollect, but had no doubt that when the Shahzadah was beſieging the city, he would have rewarded Ramnerain very handſomely, if he had been baſe enough to betray the city to him: And being queſtioned whether he had any converſation with Mr. Hay, relative to the circumſtances of Ramnerain, and the demands made upon him by the nabob? he ſaid, He was confident that Mr. Hay had an equal repugnancy with himſelf, to the withdrawing the Engliſh protection from Ramnerain; and that if he was the perſon who executed the orders of the council to deliver him up, he did it with great reluctance.

The matter contained in the above examination, and the papers referred to in the appendix, connected with what will appear upon the journals in the proceedings of laſt year, is all the Committee have collected upon the ſubject of Ramnerain.

But, in order to give further lights to the Houſe upon the practices of that period, between the Company's ſervants and the Country powers, in matters of protection, and alſo to ſhew the jealouſies the nabob Coſſim Ally Cawn entertained on that ſubject, and the determination he had formed to make exemplary puniſhments of thoſe who ſhould ſeek protection of the Engliſh:

Your Committee entered into the examination of the circumſtances relating to the ſeizing and putting to death of Harris Choudry, in the Year 1762; and for that purpoſe they examined Stanlake Batſon, Eſquire, who informed the Committee, that he had been of the council of Bengal ſeveral years, and to the year 1764; That Harris Choudry had been one of the Company's dadney, or contracting, merchants, at the Coſſimbuzar factory, in Mr. Watts's chiefſhip; and he had likewiſe been employed as the Company's vackeel, or agent at the nabob's court, but not ſince the year 1756. That at the time he was ſeized, he was in ſome employment under Coſſim Ally Cawn: That when Mr. Vanſittart made Myr Coſſim nabob, he permitted Mr. Mott, an Engliſhman, to reſide at Muxadabad as a banker; that Harris Choudry complained to the witneſs, that Mr. Mott was about to ſeize a houſe or piece of land at Muxadabad, which belonged to him, and convinced him that Mr. Mott was going to do a piece of injuſtice, and obtained of him ſome Seepoys for the protection of his property:—That Mr. Mott, preſuming on the influence he had over the nabob, by Mr. Vanſittart's means, did not deſiſt from ſeizing the houſe, but applied to the governor of Muxadabad for Seepoys, and a fray happened between the two parties, in which he believed ſome were wounded; in conſequence of which, Harris Choudry was ſeized, and after ſome confinement blown away from the mouth of a cannon.—The witneſs believed Mr. Vanſittart did not uſe his influence with the nabob to ſave him, deeming his execution a juſt reward for his rebellion, as he declared at the board, upon the witneſs ſpeaking in his favour. The witneſs could not ſay whether it was underſtood by the nabob, that he was under the Company's protection by having their Seepoys, but ſaid that he granted him Seepoys as having been in the Company's ſervice as vackeel of the factory.—The witneſs further ſaid, He believed Harris Choudry was put to death merely on account of the conteſt with Mr. Mott; and did not know of any application of the governor and council to ſave him.—He believed Harris Choudry had no opportunity of making ſuch application himſelf, being cloſe priſoner; but believed ſome letters paſſed between Mr. Vanſittart and him on that ſubject.

Your Committee, purſuant to the order they had eſtabliſhed, proceeded in the next place to examine further into the cauſes of the war between Coſſim Ally Cawn and the Company. The general notoriety of many of thoſe circumſtances, and the different reaſonings of the gentlemen of the council in Bengal upon them, makes it unneceſſary, in the judgment of the Committee, to burthen the Houſe with a recital at large of all that appears upon the records to have been written and argued upon this ſubject; and they have therefore thought their duty to the Houſe fulfilled, in ſelecting, from the multiplicity of papers to which they have had recourſe, ſuch parts as will authenticate the principal facts, as will ſuccinctly ſhew the origin and nature of the diſputes, and as will elucidate the parole evidence; all which are contained in the Appendix, N° 17 to 63.

And your Committee again examined Stanlake Batſon, Eſquire, who being deſired to give an account of the effects of promulgating the Mongheer treaty, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, N° 64, ſaid, That on the ſame being made public, the nabob Coſſim Ally Cawn ſent orders to all his zemindars and officers to prevent the Engliſh from trading in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco:—That by one letter, which fell into the hands of the Engliſh, it appeared, that the nabob had ordered the man to whom it was addreſſed to ſtop the Engliſh in their trade, all but his friends Meſſieurs Vanſittart and Haſtings: That the ſaid letter ought to be upon the conſultations; and he was ſure that the words "all but my friends Vanſittart and Haſtings," or to that purpoſe, were in the letter read at the board; and that the order was to ſtop the trade. That in his opinion the breach with Coſſim Ally Cawn aroſe from his deſire and intention of making himſelf totally independent of the Engliſh, and not from any inordinate deſire of the Engliſh to carry on the trade of the country without paying him his duties:—That he never heard that the gentlemen, engaged in the ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco trade, refuſed paying the old eſtabliſhed duties, but that the Engliſh in general traded duty free. That to the beſt of his knowledge the Engliſh traded, prior to the year 1756, in all articles except ſalt, beetle nut, tobacco, ſalt petre, and chutta ſilk, which were all farmed out;—That ſalt is an import at Bengal, being made at Maſſulapatam and in Perſia; and that for his firſt adventure in that article, which was juſt after the battle of Plaſſy, he had the nabob's duſtuck, and of courſe paid no duties; but could not recollect whether he paid any afterwards: That the Engliſh began to trade in ſalt about the end of 1757, ſoon after which it became general. That Coſſim Ally Cawn threatened to lay open the trade of Bengal duty free, but he believed never did; That if the order had been put in execution all nations would have been on the ſame footing as the Engliſh:—That the Engliſh refuſing to pay the nabob's duties was alleged as one cauſe of the breach between them, but the witneſs believed it was not really ſo, being only a pretence.

Then General Carnac, a member of the Houſe, being examined as to the cauſes of the differences between Coſſim Ally Cawn and the Engliſh, ſaid, That in his opinion Coſſim Ally Cawn was determined from the beginning to ſet himſelf out of the reach of the Engliſh power as expeditiouſly as poſſible: and that it was natural he ſhould do ſo, having no ſecurity for the Engliſh faith being better kept with him than his predeceſſor Myr Jaffier, who had been eſtabliſhed by the unanimous approbation of the whole ſettlement, and that act was concurred in by Admiral Watſon,

who

who then commanded his Majeſty's ſquadron in India; whereas this revolution was effected only by a few members of the then adminiſtration, who availed themſelves of an occaſional majority; and every act of Coſſim Ally Cawn's ſhewed his diſpoſition: he expreſſed his reſentment on all occaſions againſt ſuch perſons of the country as had any intercourſe with the Engliſh, ſo that none of the officers of the government dared viſit the Engliſh in the familiar manner which had been uſual for two or three years paſt; he removed the ſeat of the government from Muxadabad, which had been the metropolis of his predeceſſors for ſeveral years paſt, and intended to have eſtabliſhed it at Rajamaul; but at this time chiefly reſided at Mongheer, which was ſtill conſiderably further from the Engliſh ſettlement. In all parts of the country, of Mongheer and Dacca particularly, they were buſily employed in making arms for him; he diſmiſſed moſt of the troops that had been in the employ of his predeceſſor, from a ſuſpicion of their having an attachment to the Engliſh; and got a new ſet of Mogul officers in his ſervice, who brought new troops with them; he raiſed and diſciplined a conſiderable number of Seepoys, and collected as large an army as he could, at a great expence, unneceſſarily, as by the treaty with the Engliſh they were to lend him aſſiſtance in caſe his affairs required it; he endeavoured to cut off the communication between the factory of Patna and the city, by ſhutting up a gate contiguous to the factory, and fenced the part of the city toward the river with a wall, to the great inconvenience of the Company's boats; and this could only have been done with hoſtile intentions, as the vicinity of the factory and the Engliſh troops therein were the beſt defence he could have on that ſide.

The witneſs obſerved, That many inſtances of the like nature are particularized in a minute of Mr. Amyatt's to the council, in the month of April 1762, which minute was read, and is in the Appendix, N° 65; and numberleſs letters from the chiefs of every factory, particularly towards October 1762, complained of ſuch oppreſſions and violations of the Engliſh rights, as indicated an abſolute determination to quarrel.

The witneſs further ſaid, That the principal adviſers of Coſſim Ally Cawn in theſe meaſures were the Armenians, who ſeemed to wiſh to have the Engliſh extirpated from the country, that the principal ſhare of the commerce might be carried on through them: That one Coja Gregory was at the head of his army, and he had ſeveral Armenians in the command of his Seepoy battalions.

The witneſs did not think there was any violation of treaties on the part of the Engliſh; he ſaid there might have been, and probably there were, ſome abuſes in the article of trade; and that thoſe in the Engliſh adminiſtration who were the friends of Coſſim Ally Cawn took great pains to have it repreſented, that what was called inland trade was the ſource of our diſagreement with him, and were very induſtrious in proving that trade illegal.

Being aſked, Whether the complaints alleged by Coſſim Ally Cawn againſt Mr. Ellis in particular were founded, he ſaid, He did not believe they were; but that the nabob had been induſtriouſly taught to believe, that every gentleman who did not approve of the revolution was hoſtile to him, and from thence he had been guilty of ſeveral inſtances of diſreſpect to them, and refuſed a viſit from Mr. Ellis, an indignity that had never before been offered to the chief of a factory: That this, with other circumſtances, might naturally excite perhaps too ſtrong a degree of reſentment in a gentleman who was of a very warm diſpoſition.

And the witneſs being further examined in regard to the military tranſactions of that period, ſaid, That on the 1ſt of January 1761, he took the command of the army, which lay encamped cloſe to Patna, the capital of the province of Bahar, then in a moſt diſtracted ſtate. The Shahzadah, who had in his ſervice Monſieur Law, with the ſhattered remains of his countrymen from Chardernagore, was in Congar Cawn's country, not more than 50 miles from Patna, whither the diſaffected rajahs flocked to his ſtandard, and every zemindar made a pretext of the troubles to evade payment of his ſtipulated revenue, ſo that all recourſes from that province were at a ſtand—Moreover the Hindoſtan troops, who compoſed part of the army, were grown outrageous from the changes of government, as they deſpaired recovering the immenſe arrears of pay due to them by the depoſed nabob their late maſter—The ſucceſs of the engagement with the Shahzadah, the 15th of the month, happily retrieved the province; for the particulars whereof, and of the ſurrender of the Shahzadah in conſequence, he referred to his public letters in the Company's records; and proceeded to ſay, that the council were pleaſed to honour him with a letter of thanks, dated 26th inſtant; and on the 19th Auguſt 1762 they communicated to him an extract of a letter from the Court of Directors dated 19th February, containing their thanks likewiſe. The protection afforded by the Engliſh to the Shahzadah occaſioned much diſcontent and jealouſy to the nabob Coſſim Ally Cawn; nor was the prince eaſy on his part, having been exceedingly alarmed by an inſurrection in his camp, the 23d of April, in which he would moſt probably have been cut off but for the timely interpoſition of the witneſs—The Shahzadah ſuſpected this inſurrection to have been ſet on foot by Coſſim Ally Cawn; that the prince finding, that neither the preſidency nor the nabob were in a condition to favour him to the extent of his wiſhes, he was ſolicitous to leave the Engliſh army.

That in the interim Colonel Coote arrived at the army, ſoon after which the Shahzadah began his march from Patna—That he was conducted by the witneſs to the Caramnaſſa (the river that ſeparates the province of Bahar from Sujah Dowla's country)—That he croſſed the river the 21ſt of June, and was met the ſame day a few miles off by Sujah Dowla. The witneſs proceeded to

ſay,

ſay, That all poſſibility of accommodation, from the continual ſeries of diſputes which had ſubſiſted between the Engliſh and Coſſim Ally Cawn, being cut off by the inhuman murder of Mr. Amyatt and the gentlemen of his family, and his attendants, as they were returning under the faith of a ſafe conduct to Calcutta, a war was declared againſt him the beginning of July 1763; the reſtoration of Myr Jaffier was reſolved on, and he was proclaimed accordingly. The minute of General Carnac to council, 4th July, on that matter, is in Appendix, N° 66.

The witneſs further ſaid, That Colonel Coote being departed for Europe, the chief command devolved upon Major Adams, of his Majeſty's 84th regiment; that he the witneſs was ordered upon a ſeparate command, for the ſecurity of the province of Burdwan; but as the main army of Coſſim Ally Cawn was moving downwards, it was afterwards judged neceſſary, that the detachment under his command ſhould join the Major, who had made his way through every oppoſition to the capital, and poſſeſſed himſelf of it by ſtorm; that he effected that junction with the utmoſt difficulty, on account of the floods, and arrived in time to have a ſhare of the battle of Geriah, the 2d of Auguſt; that by the end of the year, after a campaign commenced and proſecuted under the inconceivable hardſhips and difficulties which inevitably attend being in the field during the violence of the wet ſeaſon in Bengal, Coſſim Ally Cawn was driven out of the provinces, and ſignalized his flight by the unparalleled and barbarous maſſacre in cold blood of every Engliſh gentleman, as well civil as military (Mr. Fullerton only excepted) and of a number of other perſons, amounting in the whole to near 300, who had the misfortune, through miſchances of war, to be his priſoners.

And in order to ſhew the progreſs of the war with Coſſim Ally Cawn, and his final expulſion out of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa; and likewiſe to ſhew what proportionable aids had been given by the Company and the Crown in the courſe of that war;

Your Committee thought it proper to enquire into the capital points of the military tranſactions in the year 1763, and for that purpoſe examined Major William Grant, who informed the Committee, That he was in India in the year 1763, in the ſeveral ſtations of lieutenant in the army, ſecretary and aid de camp to Major Adams, and field engineer; Major Adams was the eldeſt major in his Majeſty's 84th regiment, and commander in chief of the troops in Bengal; which troops, when the major took the field againſt Coſſim Ally Cawn, amounted to 600 Europeans and nine companies of Seepoys, each company conſiſting of 100 men; and a detachment of the company's troops, conſiſting of 100 Europeans and a battalion of Seepoys were at that time at Midnapore, who were ordered to join him, and actually did ſo after the ſtorming the lines of Muxadabad; that, excluſive of the army abovementioned, there was a detachment of 50 Europeans, the Black Cavalry, and three companies of Seepoys, with two guns, ordered on as an advanced guard of the army, on the 25 June to Amboré, and intended for the protection of the Burdwan province; this detachment was with very great difficulty equipped, there being a great want of bullocks for drawing the artillery and carrying the tents, likewiſe of boats, cooleys, and almoſt every other neceſſary. Of the number of about 650 Europeans as above ſtated, about 420 might be King's troops, and the reſt were the troops of the company. On the 26th of June, the army marched in order to join the advanced detachment at Amboré, where they arrived the 10th of July.—On the 4th, it had been determined by the board to proclaim Myr Jaffier nabob, having the preceding day received ſome alarm of the account of Mr. Amyatt and the Coſſimbuzar factory, though no certain intelligence had been procured, the letter carriers having been driven from their reſpective ſtations by order of Coſſim Ally Cawn. On the 10th they received intelligence of the total defeat of the troops at Patna, and a confirmation of the maſſacre of Mr. Amyatt at Coſſimbuzar. On the 11th, the nabob Myr Jaffier Ally Cawn, after having concluded the treaty with the governor and council, left Calcutta to join the army, and that the witneſs attended him as his eſcort. That on the 17th, they joined the army, then advanced to Agurdeep. On the 19th they came to a general engagement with the enemy, under the command of Mahomed Tucky Cawn at Bullopara, when they gained a compleat victory, and in conſequence of which the enemy abandoned Cutwall, a fort on the conflux of the rivers Coſſimbuzar and Agar.

The witneſs deſired to obſerve, that they made an acquiſition of bullocks, which were very much wanted; for that had it not been for the indefatigable exertion of Mr. Johnſon, chief of the Burdwan, the army could not have poſſibly advanced thus far. That he not only ſupplied them with bullocks but with money likewiſe, for which they were in ſuch diſtreſs, that when they took the field there were not 10,000 rupees in the public treaſury. That on the 23d, the army advanced to Chunna Colly, and on the 24th in the morning ſtormed the enemy's inveſtments at Mootejil, by which they got poſſeſſion of Muxadabad, with about 50 pieces of cannon of different cullevirs. That about the 27th or 28th, the army croſſed the Coſſimbuzar river, and were joined by the detachment beforementioned from Midnapore. That on the 2d of Auguſt, after croſſing a nulla or ravine in the face of the enemy, they came to a general engagement with the whole of their troops, in a plain remarkable for the former defeat of Sultan Sujah, called Geriah: That the enemy had collected their whole force, conſiſting of 10 or 12 battalions of Sepoys regularly diſciplined, and (by report) of 15,000 horſe, with 17 pieces of cannon, mounted in the Engliſh manner, being many of them taken from their army and factory at Patna, and worked by 170 Europeans. That after an obſtinate diſpute of four hours, in which the enemy broke a part of

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the Engliſh troops, had taken poſſeſſion of two pieces of their cannon, attacked his Majeſty's 84th regiment in front and rear, they gained a compleat victory, the enemy having abandoned all their cannon, together with 150 boats loaden with grain and other ſtores. That on the 11th, the army advanced to Outahnulla, a fort which the enemy had fortified, being ſituate between the chain of hills and the river; from the former to the latter they had thrown up an intrenchment, on which they had mounted about 100 pieces of cannon; the intrenchment was full of water, deep, and about 50 or 60 feet broad, the ground in front was ſwampy, and no poſſibility of an approach but on the bank of the river, where the ground was dry for about the breadth of 100 yards; there they thought it neceſſary to make a ſhew of a regular attack, in order to draw off the enemy's attention from the banks next the hill; but as they were daily harraſſed by numerous bodies of their cavalry both in front and rear, they were under the neceſſity of extending their incampment; after having amuſed the enemy with their approaches and batteries on the bank of the river, where they made a falſe attack, on the 5th of September they made the real one, on the foot of the hill; in which after an obſtinate reſiſtance they ſucceeded, and got poſſeſſion of the whole of their cannon, having made a very great ſlaughter of the enemy, and taken about 1,000 of their cavalry priſoners. It was reported, that Coſſim had 60,000 people in arms in that intrenchment, and the whole Engliſh army did not amount to more than 3,000 firelocks: That about the end of September they advanced to the neighbourhood of Mongheer, which they were obliged to attack regularly, and in the beginning of October, after having made a practicable breach, the garriſon, conſiſting of 2,000 Seepoys, capitulated. That place Coſſim had made his capital, and had ſtrengthened as much as his time and circumſtances would admit. There they received accounts of the maſſacre of the Engliſh gentlemen and ſoldiers, who were priſoners of war, amounting altogether to about 200, at Patna, and other places.—And the witneſs obſerved, That at Chabaud, when on march to Mongheer, Major Adams received a letter from Coſſim Ally Cawn, ſignifying his reſolution, in caſe the army ſhould advance further, to cut off the Engliſh gentlemen in his poſſeſſion. At that time Meſſieurs Adams, Batſon, and Carnac wrote to Meſſieurs Ellis and Hay, recommending to them to endeavour to purchaſe their liberty of the guard who were over them, at any price; to which they returned for anſwer, That they ought not to be attentive to them, for they muſt ſubmit to their fate; and deſired that no conſideration of their ſituation ſhould prevent the army from proceeding in their operations.

The witneſs further obſerved, That it was while the army lay at Chabaud that they were informed that Ramnerain and rajah Bullub were ſent out in a boat from Mongheer, before Coſſim had left it, to a little reach in the river, in ſight of the garriſon, where they were put to death; and about the ſame time raja Futta Sing, and nine more of Ramnerain's relations, were likewiſe put to death; and that on the advance of the army towards Patna, they found the bodies of the two ſects buried in an apartment of a houſe at Bahar; they had been put to death by Coſſim's order, and expoſed under a guard of Seepoys, to beaſts and birds of prey, that they might not be burned, according to the rites of their religion, being Gentoos.

And the witneſs proceeded to relate, that about the end of the month they were advanced to the environs of Patna, which place, after a ſpirited defence, they made themſelves maſters of on the 6th of November, by ſtorm, the enemy having, in the courſe of the ſiege, got poſſeſſion of one of their batteries, and blown up their magazine. After the capture of Patna the enemy made no further ſtand.—The army advanced about the end of December to the banks of the Carumnaſſa, the boundary of the province, at which time Coſſim, with the ſhattered remains of his army and treaſure, were waiting to complete his bridge of boats over the Ganges, in order to croſs over to Sujah Dowlah's country, which he entered on the 4th of December. On the 9th, Major Adams left the army under the command of Major Knox, intending to embark for Europe, and, by particular deſire of the nabob, permitted the witneſs to remain twenty days with the army, during which interval ſome of Coſſim's emiſſaries were buſy with the foreigners in their army, three of whom deſerted, and were two days afterwards taken. Major Knox's indiſpoſition, he imagined, prevented his application to Major Adams for a warrant to try thoſe deſerters—they remained in confinement when Major Knox and he left the army, about the end of December, and he believes were not at laſt tried by a general court martial. The troops at this time laying inactive on the frontiers of the province, entertained an idea that they would not proceed to the neceſſary ſeverity of military puniſhments, and in his opinion this was the firſt grounds of the mutinous diſpoſition which prevailed in their army for ſome time after, and had well nigh occaſioned the loſs of the whole province. That about the middle of January he arrived at Calcutta, where he received the firſt account of Major Adams's death.

The witneſs being queſtioned as to the condition of Coſſim Ally Cawn's army, he ſaid, it was better appointed, and better diſciplined, than he had ever ſeen an Indian army before: And being aſked, Whether, on the march of the army under Major Adams, the probability of ſucceſs was on the ſide of the Engliſh or Myr Coſſim? he ſaid, To a reflecting mind it muſt evidently have appeared in favour of Coſſim, though the troops were, he believed, all determined to a man, either to conquer or die, there being no other reſource.

The witneſs was alſo aſked, where Coſſim Ally Cawn was ſupplied with the great quantities of artillery he all along appeared to have had? he ſaid, That he purchaſed the greateſt part of his field artillery clandeſtinely of the Europeans; that he had carriages made by his own people from Engliſh models; but two ſix pounders were delivered over to him at Patna (by whom he does not know) and that his carriages were made with elevating ſcrews, and in every reſpect as good as the models.

And in order further to ſhew the military tranſactions of that period, and the riſe and progreſs of the war with Sujah Dowlah,

Your Committee lay before the Houſe the papers in the Appendix marked 67; and further refer to the evidence of Colonel Monro, entered in the journals of laſt year, and then taken before the witneſs left London, upon a ſuppoſition that the Committee would have been able to have reached that period in their examinations.

Your Committee proceeded in the next place to inquire into the conduct of the Company's ſervants upon the death of Myr Jaffier, into the part they took in the eſtabliſhment of his ſucceſſor, Nudjum ul Dowlah, and into the motives upon which they acted; and your Committee find, That Myr Jaffier, ſome time before his death, had aſſociated in the government his ſecond ſon, Nudjum ul Dowlah, then about twenty years of age, and declared him his ſucceſſor: That at the death of Myr Jaffier, which happened in the month of January in the year 1765, Mr. Middleton, then reſident at the Durbar on the part of the Company, was preſent at the ceremony of placing Nudjum ul Dowlah on the muſnud, and gave and received the cuſtomary nazars (or complimentary preſents) on that occaſion.

That it was reſolved by the governor and council to ſend a deputation, conſiſting of four gentlemen of the council, viz. Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Leyceſter, Senior, and Middleton, with the inſtructions annexed in the Appendix, N° 68.

That the ſaid deputation, after ſome negociation, which is explained in the ſubſequent evidence and papers annexed, concluded a treaty with the nabob: And in order to obtain further lights in the above tranſaction, your Committee examined Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire, who informed your Committee he was a member of the council of Calcutta in 1765; that upon the death of Myr Jaffier, the governor and council, on the part of the Company, reſolved to acknowledge his eldeſt ſon, whom the late nabob had, a ſhort time before his death, aſſociated with him in the government, as his ſucceſſor to the muſnud—the terms on which ſuch acknowledgement was to be made, neceſſarily brought to the recollection of the governor and council the ſeveral inconveniences which had been felt under the late treaty with Myr Jaffier; and it was a duty they owed the Company, by whoſe arms Nudjum ul Dowlah was to be ſupported in his government, to ſtipulate ſuch conditions as ſhould be convenient to their affairs—from the time the barrier between the country government and the Company had been broke down, conteſts for power had ariſen between them, till in 1763 the Engliſh affairs were brought into a moſt critical ſituation by a war with Coſſim Ally Cawn:—In the new treaty therefore with Jaffier Ally Cawn, in 1763, it had been ſtipulated, that he ſhould not maintain above 12,000 horſe, and 12,000 foot—thus deprived of power to become formidable to the Engliſh, he had no military force that could add ſtrength to their army during the war with Sujah Dowlah, which for ſome time wore ſo ſerious an aſpect as to oblige the ſervants of the Company to augment their forces, which, together with the great diſtance of the ſcene of action, increaſed the military expences beyond the extent of the Company's funds in Bengal—this was repreſented to the nabob in October 1764, and he was with difficulty prevailed on to contribute five lacks of rupees per month, towards the expence of the army, ſo long as the war with Sujah Dowlah ſhould laſt:—The little aſſiſtance that had been received from any forces that had been kept up by the nabob, convinced the council, that the intire defence of the provinces muſt henceforth reſt upon the Engliſh army—it was therefore thought wiſe and prudent to diſcharge the nabob from the expences of keeping up any military force but ſuch as ſhould be neceſſary for the parade and dignity of government, the diſtributing of juſtice, and the buſineſs of the collections; and in order to indemnify the Company for the increaſed burthen of their expences, it was reſolved to propoſe to the nabob, that the temporary aſſignment of five lacks per month ſhould be converted into a perpetuity, ſo long as the exigencies of the Company's affairs ſhould require it, or there was a neceſſity for keeping up ſo large a force for the defence of the provinces—The eſtabliſhed income of the Company at this period was about £. 1,400,000 per annum, including the five lacks per month, and excluſive of Goſſipore, which had been ceded to the Company by the King, and had yielded to the Company near £. 230,000 per annum—the military expences, including the charge of fortifications, amounted to about £. 1,100,000 per annum—civil expences of ſettlement to about £. 200,000 per annum; ſo that there would have remained a clear income to the Company of about £. 350,000 to be employed in the purchaſe of inveſtments, excluſive of the profits ariſing from the ſales of goods imported from Europe.—Such was the ſituation of the Company in point of income in April 1765; and repeatedly as the Directors had enjoined their ſervants not to extend their territorial objects, the council thought the converting the temporary aſſignment of five lacks into a perpetuity was the moſt eligible mode of aſcertaining to the Company proper reſources for their prodigious military diſburſements; and if the immenſe expence of maintaining an army ſufficient to defend the provinces be conſidered, it

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will be found, that the nabob was left in a ſituation as deſirable as any of his predeceſſors. The military of the nabob was another very important point to be ſettled—The old nabob had been ſo rivetted to Nundcomar, a man of a very bad character, that the whole affairs of government had been committed to him without any controul; he had once been convicted before the board of aſſiſting our enemies in their deſigns on Bengal; and though very ſtrongly ſuſpected of carrying on a treacherous correſpondence with our enemies during the war with Sujah Dowlah, yet the nabob, notwithſtanding the remonſtrances of the board, continued to ſupport him in the plenitude of power.—The Court of Directors ordered he ſhould not be employed in any office of truſt, which, together with the opinion the board had formed of his character, brought them to the reſolution of having him removed from ſo abſolute a ſway—conſenting however, if the nabob ſhould inſiſt upon it, to have him in any lucrative office, with ſuch checks as ſhould prevent miſchiefs to the public—the board therefore came to the reſolution of recommending Mahomed Reza Cawn, being the fitteſt man that occurred.—The immediate collections of the revenues was to be under Roy Dulub and others; and as the Company were become ſo intereſted in the buſineſs of the collections, it was thought proper to reſerve to the board a right of remonſtrating when improper people were employed.—The annual fall of rupees had been conſidered as a very great grievance to that country: It was therefore made a ſtipulation in the treaty with Nudjum ul Dowlah, that he would concur with the board in proper regulations for removing ſo great a grievance.—Theſe, with ſome other articles of the treaty formerly executed with Jaffier Ally Cawn, compoſed the new treaty drawn up by the board, and a deputation, conſiſting of Meſſieurs Johnſtone, Senior, Middleton, and the witneſs, was appointed, in the middle of February 1765, to ſeat Nudjum ul Dowlah on the muſnud, as ſoon as he ſhould have acceded to the new treaty.—The deputies, as was expected, met with every oppoſition that could be made by Nundcomar, an artful, ambitious man, whoſe own power was to be ſo greatly leſſened by the new treaty propoſed to the nabob; and had this man been left in the full enjoyment of his power, the witneſs was perſuaded the nabob would not have objected to any other part of the treaty.—The chief, if not the ſole objection that he made, was to the nomination of Mahomed Reza Cawn, of whom ſo great a degree of jealouſy had artfully been infuſed by Nundcomar, that the deputies found the nabob ſtrongly prepoſſeſſed with an idea, that the council meant to place Mahomed Reza Cawn on the muſnud.—The deputies had great difficulty in arguing him out of ſuch a ſuſpicion; but, upon their ſolemn aſſurances, that there was no ſuch deſign, he was at laſt convinced.—The deputies were particularly earneſt to have the treaty executed, as they learnt that Nudjum ul Dowlah, by advice of Nundcomar, had applied for ſunnuds from the king, intending to take poſſeſſion of the provinces by virtue thereof, previous to any ſtipulation with the Company; and on the very day fixed for ſeating Nudjum ul Dowlah on the muſnud, under the influence of the Company, he ſent word that the ſunnuds were arrived—and it was with ſome difficulty he was prevailed upon to poſtpone the public receipt of them.—The board had expreſſed an opinion, that if ſunnuds were neceſſary, they ſhould be obtained only through the influence of the Company, and could not but be diſpleaſed, that Nundcomar ſhould have taken upon himſelf to apply for them without their concurrence.—The new treaty having been executed, and Mahomed Reza Cawn having been received by the nabob as his miniſter, the deputies proſecuted the other object of their commiſſion, which was to aim at ſuch a knowledge of the revenues, as might enable the board to give their ſentiments to the nabob on the allotments neceſſary to be made in the collections.—To this Nundcomar gave the utmoſt oppoſition, as an inquiry into the revenues was ſure to diſcover any miſmanagement of his; and, as the witneſs recollected, there appeared at that time a large ſum unaccounted for, or uncollected, in which Nundcomar had a particular intereſt. The nabob appeared ſatisfied with what had been done, and he expreſſed his ſatisfaction in a letter to the governor on the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn, and on other points.—The ſubſequent orders of the board, with reſpect to Nundcomar, gave the nabob great offence.—Mr. George Vanſittart had juſt brought down from Patna ſome ſtrong preſumptive evidence of his having carried on a treacherous correſpondence with our enemies during the war with Sujah Dowlah, upon which the council poſitively directed that Nundcomar ſhould be ſent down to Calcutta to anſwer the charge.—The nabob was very unwilling to part with Nundcomar, and wrote preſſingly to the governor on the ſubject.—The board thought the public ſafety required an examination, and perſiſted in their order; in conſequence he was ſent down to Calcutta, and the ſeveral witneſſes ordered from Patna.—The deputies would very willingly have been excuſed a ſervice ſo diſagreeable to the nabob, but it was their duty to execute the orders of the council, from which they never deviated.—That, ſhortly after this, the witneſs was ordered down to Calcutta, and reſumed his place, as one of the members of the board, about the end of March.

And the witneſs being aſked, Whether, at the time of agreeing to acknowledge Nudjum ul Dowlah, the pretenſions of the other relations of Myr Jaffier were conſidered,—he ſaid, That, as he recollected, the board did conſider that point—That the competitors for the ſucceſſion to the muſnud were Nudjum ul Dowlah, Jaffier's ſecond ſon, but the eldeſt alive, who was twenty years old, and a ſon of the late Chuta Nabob, who was Jaffier's eldeſt ſon, and was at that time about ſix years old.—The board were of opinion it was not cuſtomary to purſue that line of ſucceſſion

ceſſion which would regulate a claim of this ſort in Europe.—Nudjum ul Dowlah had been brought down to Calcutta by Myr Jaffier, and all along conſidered by him as the next in ſucceſſion, and, a ſhort time before his death, had been aſſociated with him in the government.—That the council were not unanimous in that opinion, Mr. Burdett diſſenting; but they did not think they could deviate from the appointment of Jaffier, without its carrying through the country the idea of a revolution.—That the public opinion was fixed on Nudjum ul Dowlah, as ſucceſſor to Myr Jaffier immediately on his death. And being aſked, why the council did not at that time take the Dewannee, he ſaid, It did not occur to him, that at that period the council took into conſideration the propriety of applying to the king for the Dewannee; but that in 1761 the offer of it was made to the governor and council, which was, after a full diſcuſſion, refuſed; and the Court of Directors approved of the conduct of the council on that occaſion, and had frequently expreſſed a wiſh, that their ſervants would not extend their territorial objects—That there could not be any doubt of the governor and council's power to poſſeſs themſelves of the Dewannee, if it had been thought expedient—That the king, who was ſubſiſting on the Company's bounty, and who had on all occaſions expreſſed the utmoſt attention to their intereſt, certainly would not have refuſed ſuch a requeſt.

And being aſked, If the governor and council had at that time inſtructed General Carnac to ſecure to the Company the Goſſipore country? he ſaid, That it was with extreme concern Mr. Vanſittart and his council were driven to the neceſſity of allowing the forces of the Company to paſs the boundaries of the Bengal provinces—That the unprovoked invaſion of Sujah Dowlah compelled them to deviate from that line—That the battle of Buxar put the Engliſh forces immediately in poſſeſſion of the country of Goſſipore; and as it was impracticable for the governor and council, after that event, to withdraw their forces back to their own provinces, they reſolved to aſk the king for ſunnuds for that province, as an aid towards defraying the great expences of the army.

And being aſked, If Myr Jaffier complained that the charge of five lacks of rupees, per month was continued on him longer than was neceſſary? he ſaid, Not that he knew of; that Myr Jaffier only agreed to pay it in October 1764, and died in January 1765.

And being aſked, Where he imagined Lord Clive was when the treaty with Nudjum ul Dowlah was concluded? he ſaid, The board had not received any certain accounts of his having left England, but from the general tenor of the letters expected him to come with extraordinary powers—That it was impoſſible for the council who were there to have left the ſucceſſion to the muſnud ſo long in ſuſpence, as to have waited his arrival; and that it would have been equally improper to have allowed Nudjum ul Dowlah to exerciſe the powers of government without entering into ſtipulations with him on behalf of the Company, beſides that the leaving of an event of that importance to the country undetermined, would probably have created much miſchief and confuſion with reſpect to the collections, and every other object of ſtate; and that he did not recollect that any member of the board propoſed to wait till Lord Clive's arrival.—And being aſked what were the number of the nabob's forces at the time of his acceſſion? he ſaid he could not remember.—That he had a great number for the buſineſs of collections, and the parade of government, but ſcarce any regular military force—and that the treaty, ſettled at the conſultation in February, was executed by the nabob without any alteration being made in the courſe of the negociation between the nabob and the gentlemen of the deputation.—And being aſked, How he ſhould have tried Nundcomar, who had been brought down to Calcutta by order of the board to anſwer certain charges brought againſt him for miſconduct in his office as miniſter to the nabob? he ſaid, The board would have called him and the evidence before them, and examined into the fact.—That they would have reſolved, upon the evidence, whether the accuſation was proved or not; but with regard to the puniſhment, he ſaid, he did not ſee where the power of inflicting it was lodged—That he did not know that the board had power to compel Nundcomar to ſubmit to their juriſdiction, but preſumed he would not have diſputed it—That Nundcomar, immediately upon his arrival at Calcutta, was confined, but not very cloſely, though, as the witneſs remembered, he was not permitted to leave his houſe without leave from the governor—That he believed he was examined by the board, but not till ſome months after his coming to Calcutta.

Your Committee then examined, to the ſame point, Archibald Swinton, Eſquire, who was captain in the army, in Bengal, in 1765, and alſo Perſian interpreter and aid de camp to General Carnac: and he informed your committee that he had frequent converſations with Myr Jaffier about the five lacks of rupees per month, ſtipulated to be paid by Myr Jaffier in October 1764, as mentioned in Mr. Leyceſter's evidence, and the other demands made on him by the board, of which he frequently heard Myr Jaffier complain bitterly, and of all the demands made upon him at that time, which had not been ſtipulated in his treaty with the Company, on his reſtoration, particularly the encreaſed demand of reſtitution for loſſes, and the donation to the navy.—That Mr. John Johnſtone was preſent at ſome of theſe converſations with the nabob, and greatly diſapproved of ſome of the demands, particularly of the donation to the navy; but that he approved of the demand of reſtitution for loſſes.

And

And your committee have annexed hereunto, No. 69, the 5th, 17th, 18th, and 19th paragraphs of the Company's ſeparate letter to Bengal, dated 24th December 1765, containing the opinion of the court of directors upon the conduct of the Company's ſervants in the courſe of the war againſt Coſſim Ally Cawn, condemning the demand which had been made of the Goſſipore country, and the intention of conquering Sujah Dowlah's country for the king; requiring them to adopt ſome ſyſtem which might clearly mark out the barriers of the country government and ours, and ordering the ſtricteſt enquiry to be made, whether any contributions had been exacted by the ſervants from the nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah on his acceſſion to the ſubahſhip.—They have alſo annexed an extract of the Company's general letter to Bengal, dated 19th February 1766, No. 70. containing the further opinion of the court of directors upon the treaty with the king, upon the meaſures purſued on the death of Jaffier Ally Cawn, the appointment of independent Duans, together with their ſtrictures upon the treaty with the nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah.—And, for the further information of the Houſe reſpecting that part of the foregoing evidence which relates to the refuſal of the Dewannee at the time then referred to, your Committee have annexed to their appendix, No. 71. the 58th paragraph of the general letter from the governor and council of Bengal, dated 12th November 1761, containing their reaſons for refuſing the Dewannee of Bengal; and the 55th paragraph of the letter from the court of directors to the preſident and council of Bengal, approving of ſuch refuſal.

Your committee then examined Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, to the ſame point, who ſaid he was firſt appointed a member of the ſelect committee in Bengal by the court of directors, at the latter end of Mr. Vanſittart's government, but never took his ſeat till after his ſecond nomination, with Lord Clive, Meſſrs. Sumner, Carnac, and Sykes, by the Company's orders, 1ſt June 1764, which orders arrived in Bengal the 24th of January 1765; that he was abſent from Calcutta as chief of Chittagong when the conſultation was held for the arrangement of the affairs of government under Nudjum ul Dowlah, and never was conſulted on that ſubject; at that time fourteen or ſixteen days were neceſſary for conveying a diſpatch to Chittagong, and receiving an anſwer, there being many broad rivers to paſs, particularly one which is a branch of the ſea, by which means the correſpondence was rendered very uncertain; that while he was at Chittagong, reports prevailed there among the people in general that there were ſome delays in regard to confirming Nudjum ul Dowlah, and that preſents were intended to be made to the council on his acceſſion.—And being aſked, If he thought Nudjum ul Dowlah the proper perſon to ſucceed to the muſnud after Myr Jaffier's death, he ſaid, According to the laws of Indoſtan he certainly was not; that the ſucceſſion ought to have run in the line of Meeran, but that thoſe laws are frequently deviated from throughout the whole mogul empire, and legal right has frequently been ſet aſide on the acceſſion of different princes.—On being aſked whether there is any law in Indoſtan regulating the ſucceſſion of the nabobs? he ſaid, He meant that Meeran's ſon was lawful heir to all that Jaffier poſſeſſed, unleſs otherwiſe diſpoſed of by will, and that he of right would ſtand in preference for recommendation to the nabobſhip, if approved of by the Company's ſervants; that the nabobſhip is an office that does not deſcend by ſucceſſion, being held under the crown, though the king frequently continues it in the ſame family—that at the time of Nudjum ul Dowlah's acceſſion to the muſnud, he neither objected to his elevation, nor was he ever conſulted on that matter, neither did he in his letter to Mr. Middleton, wrote at that period, mention any thing about it, nor to any of his friends.—Being aſked, Whether, if he had been at the board at the time of Jaffier's death, and obliged to determine on a ſucceſſor, he ſhould have choſen Nudjum ul Dowlah, or Meeran's ſon? he ſaid, he could not pretend to ſay what arguments were uſed, or what circumſtances laid before the gentlemen at the time of their determination, but that poſſibly they might have been ſuch as might have led him to concur with the other gentlemen in the choice of Nudjum ul Dowlah—That the appointment of Meeran's ſon might have been a more politic meaſure, as there would have been a long minority, he being only ſix years old; during which minority, the Engliſh affairs in Bengal would of courſe have been on a more permanent baſis, as there would not have been the ambition of the prince to contend with—That though he was a member of the board at the time of Nudjum ul Dowlah's death, he did not make any claim in favour of Meeran's ſon, whoſe right to the ſucceſſion he did not eſteem as ſtrong then as at the acceſſion of Nudjum ul Dowlah, notwithſtanding that Syfa Dowlah, who was Nudjum's next brother, and ſucceeded him in the muſnud, was Jaffier's ſon by another woman, becauſe that as the line of ſucceſſion had been broke, ſuch a meaſure would have had the appearance of a revolution—That if Myr Jaffier had given his effects by will to Nudjum his ſon, there would not have been any injury to Meeran's ſon—That he ſuppoſed the meaſure adopted by the treaty with Nudjum ul Dowlah, to limit the number of his forces, was in order to eſtabliſh the ſuperior power of the Engliſh.—Being aſked, What was the annual amount of the nabob's revenues after payment of the ſums ſtipulated by treaty? he ſaid, He could not ſpeak from memory as to the preciſe collections in the nabob's time, but that, ſuppoſing them ſomething leſs than they have been ſince, he imagined they would amount to about two millions ſterling.—And being aſked, What would be the nett ſum remaining for the nabob after paying the expences of his government? he ſaid, He

was not ſufficiently acquainted with the eſtabliſhment to anſwer that queſtion—there would be an expence incurred, and probably a very conſiderable one.

In the courſe of the above examination your Committee had occaſion to obſerve, that mention was made of preſents to the ſervants of the Company, and they purſued their inquiries thereupon: —And your Committee take this occaſion to remark, that they have not found upon the Company's records, previous to the receipt of the covenants in the year 1765, any direct report from perſons concerned, of preſents received by them, it not having been the practice with the Company's ſervants for thoſe acting ſeparately to communicate to the governor and council, nor for the governor and council when they were collectively concerned to communicate to the Court of Directors, the receipt of preſents; neither has it been the practice, as far as your Committee can diſcover, of his Majeſty's officers acting with the Company's forces in India ſo to do.

And in regard to ſuch tranſactions as related to preſents at the period of the acceſſion of Nudjum ul Dowlah, your Committee examined Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire, who gave the following information: That he was one of the gentlemen of the deputation for negotiating the treaty with Nudjum ul Dowlah, on his acceſſion to the muſnud; and who, being aſked what he knew of any preſents being made on that occaſion? ſaid, That ſoon after the death of Myr Jaffier, an agent of Nudjum ul Dowlah's came to Calcutta to notify his acceſſion to the government, and to offer preſents to the governor and members of the council, as had been before practiſed; that Mr. Spencer in particular, who was at that time governor of Bengal, offered nine or ten lacks of rupees, if he would allow all things to remain in the ſtate they then were; that Juggut Chund was the agent, and the time of his coming to Calcutta about the middle of February 1765—That Mr. Spencer communicated theſe offers to the council; and ſaid he was informed by the ſame agent, that he had authority to offer preſents to the other members of the council, but that the agent did not ſpecify any particular ſums—That the gentlemen all concurred with Mr. Spencer in thinking it improper to receive any preſents from the nabob, both as the public intereſts were yet unſettled, and as they ſaw a public expediency for removing Nundcomar, through whom theſe preſents were underſtood to be made, and who was at that time prime miniſter and favourite to the nabob:—That after the treaty was executed at Muxadabad, the public intereſt amply ſecured, and Mahomed Reza Cawn received into the office which had been held by Nundcomar, it was mentioned to the nabob by Mooteram, a gentoo, that if his excellency continued in his former mind, with reſpect to the offering preſents, there were not any objections now to receiving any marks of his favour:—That a few days before this, the nabob had offered the witneſs, through Nundcomar, a preſent of two lacks of rupees, or any ſum he would chuſe to accept, which he declined, becauſe it was to come through Nundcomar's hands:—That about the 8th of March, Mahomed Reza Cawn came to Mootejil, where the gentlemen of the deputation reſided, with the offer of a teep from the nabob for 137,000 rupees to Mr. Johnſtone, who was at the head of the deputation, and one lack 12,500 rupees to each of the other deputies, which they deſired Mahomed Reza Cawn to carry back to the nabob with proper compliments, and to ſay, If they received any marks of his favour, they wiſhed to receive them only from his own hands: That about a week after, when the deputies were at the public durbar, the nabob made the ſame offer which he had repeatedly preſſed the deputies to accept as a mark of his favour and ſatisfaction:—That after reiterated aſſurances of his regard, they at laſt accepted his offers about the 16th of March; on the 21ſt of which month the witneſs returned to his ſtation at Calcutta; and that in the courſe of April and May following the amount was paid to him:—That before the witneſs left Muxadabad, Mahomed Reza Cawn expreſſed himſelf grateful for the ſervices rendered him, and declared his deſire of preſenting him with a lack of rupees, which at that time the witneſs ſaid he did intend to accept; that no teep or obligation of any kind was given; and that afterwards, conſidering that he might be one day called upon to defend the propriety of the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn as miniſter, he reſolved not to put himſelf in a ſituation of being ſuſpected of ſupporting a meaſure from pecuniary influence, in which he had concurred from a perfect conviction of its public utility:—That for this reaſon he declined receiving a draft for 50,000 rupees in part of the ſaid one lack, which Mahomed Reza Cawn ſent for his uſe in May; and that he never received a ſingle rupee of the ſaid ſum ſo offered by him:—That the deputies having had an opportunity of rendering ſome ſervice to the houſe of Juggut Seet, by recommending them to the protection of the nabob, it was mentioned to the witneſs juſt before he left Muxadabad, that they intended to offer ſome preſents to the deputies:—That ſome weeks after he was informed they had ſent 10,000 rupees to a gentleman at Coſſimbuzar for the uſe of the witneſs, which he alſo returned, and declared that his fortune had not on this, or any other occaſion, been benefited by the receipt of preſents, excepting that from the nabob, and common complimentary nazars, which latter did not exceed £. 50 or £. 60 in the whole; and that conſidering the cuſtom of the country, and the practice of his predeceſſors, there did not ſeem an impropriety in receiving a preſent, which was neither the reward of any improper ſervices, nor the condition of any to be performed, but the mere conſequence of cuſtom on the like occaſions:—That he had fully diſcharged every public truſt, and having declined occaſions of receiving conſiderable preſents, which with reſpect to time and circumſtance he did not approve, he held himſelf at liberty to receive the one mentioned before:—And being aſked, If he recollected or had heard of any preſents being

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offered to any governor and council upon the death of one nabob and the acceſſion of another? he ſaid, That preſents were given upon the acceſſion of Myr Jaffier on Serajah Dowlah's depoſition, and on the acceſſion of Myr Coſſim on the depoſing of Jaffier, which he ſaid were the inſtances of receiving preſents referred to by him in the former part of his evidence:—And being aſked, What other preſents were made to his knowledge? he ſaid, That about the time he received Mahomed Reza Cawn's offer, governor Spencer received an offer from him of two lacks of rupees, which he believed the governor accepted:—That Meſſrs. Pleydell, Burdett, and Gray received at the ſame time an offer of one lack of rupees each, which he believed they accepted:—That ſome time after the witneſs left Muxadabad, which was about the latter end of April, the nabob preſſed Mr. Johnſtone to accept an additional lack of rupees, as he underſtood in the preſence of Meſſrs. Senior and Middleton, and at the ſame time offered Mr. Gideon Johnſtone 50,000 rupees, which ſums they both received:—That Mr. Senior received 50,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn; and that Juggat Seet preſented each of the deputies, except the witneſs, 10,000 rupees, which they accepted:—And being aſked Whether the gentlemen of the deputation notified to the governor and council the preſents which were offered to them and accepted; and whether the governor and council notified to the Court of Directors, that they had received any preſents on this event?—he anſwered in the negative:—The witneſs further ſaid, That at the time preſents were offered through Nunducomar for the eſtabliſhment of the government under Nudjum ul Dowlah, he never heard that any offers were made on the part of the infant, who was the competitor for the nabobſhip, nor to his knowledge were any claim made on his part:—That there was never any ſtipulation with Mahomed Reza Cawn, or any perſon on his account, as to preſents, before he was appointed miniſter, nor at any other time, neither was there any ſuch ſtipulation with the nabob, nor to his ſigning the treaty, which was ratified by him juſt as it had been drawn up by the council before the deputies repaired to Muxadabad, or conformable to the ſubſequent inſtructions of the board, which the deputies ſtrictly complied with.

And Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, being called to the ſame point, he informed your Committe, That while he was at Chittagong, as chief of the factory there, reports prevailed among the people in general, that there were ſome delays in regard to confirming Nudjum ul Dowlah in the muſnud, and that preſents were intended to be made to the council on his acceſſion—That on theſe reports he wrote a private letter to Mr. Middleton, who was in the deputation appointed for negociating the treaty with the new nabob, to know whether there was any truth in the report—That Mr. Middleton wrote him word, that he underſtood preſents were intended for all the board; to which the witneſs replied, that he diſapproved ſuch a meaſure, and as a member of the board, and one ſuppoſed to be meant to be conſidered, he ſhould refuſe it; becauſe he was not conſcious of having rendered Nudjum ul Dowlah any ſervices to entitle him to any expectation of that kind; and that he did not know of any ſervices the reſt of the council had done Nudjum ul Dowlah, further than approving his ſucceſſion to the muſnud, which he conſidered as a mere matter of form and public duty.—Being aſked, If he knew of any ſervices performed to Myr Jaffier, by Lord Clive, and the gentlemen who received preſents in 1756 from him, which it was not their duty to have performed agreeably to the treaty with him, and the intereſt of the Company? he ſaid, It was undoubtedly their duty to perform any ſervices to the Company whenever called upon; but that the good offices they rendered Myr Jaffier were, in his opinion, very conſiderable, and in performing which, their lives and properties were riſqued; but that the caſe of Nudjum ul Dowlah was not parallel to it in his opinion.

And Aſcanius William Senior, Eſquire, being examined to the ſame point, informed your Committee, That he was one of the council at the time of Myr Jaffier's death, and one of the deputation ordered by the council to join the other deputies ſent to Nudjum ul Dowlah—Being aſked if he received any preſents on that occaſion, he ſaid he had, from the nabob one lack of rupees, from Mahomed Reza Cawn 50,000 rupees, and from the Seets 10,000 rupees; which was the whole: And being deſired to ſtate in what manner he received thoſe preſents, he ſaid, that one evening Meſſ. Johnſtone and Leyceſter came to ſup with him at the houſe of the chief at Coſſimbuzar, where he reſided officially at that time:—That they informed him that Mahomed Reza Cawn had been at Mootejil that morning, with an offer of preſents from the nabob, without mentioning any conditions, which they refuſed, and begged he would be at Mootejil the next morning, when Mahomed Reza Cawn had promiſed to be there:—That he went accordingly, met him, and received the ſame offer, which they all refuſed, telling him, that if the nabob meant them any preſents they muſt come from himſelf, and not through other hands:—That ſome days afterwards, as they were ſitting in the public durbar, the nabob himſelf requeſted of them to receive the preſents, which they at firſt refuſed, telling him, that as he had expreſſed a diſlike to their proceedings they could not receive his preſents; to which he replied, that he was then perfectly ſatisfied with their proceedings, and ſhould not look upon them as his friends if they did not accept the preſents—That they accordingly did accept them, and gave the teep to Mahomed Reza Cawn for payment:—That the teep included the whole deputation, but ſpecified how the ſum was to be divided, and the diſtribution was explained by Mahomed Reza Cawn: And being aſked, Whether preſents to that amount were uſual in Bengal, upon the death of one nabob and the advancement of his ſucceſſor? he ſaid, it was

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uſual to make very large preſents on thoſe occaſions, particularly on placing Myr Jaffier and Coſſim Ally Cawn on the muſnud, which were the only inſtances he knew of; and being aſked what was the diſlike the nabob had expreſſed to the proceedings of the gentlemen in the deputation, he ſaid he underſtood it was becauſe they had endeavoured to diſplace Nundcomar, the prime miniſter, agreeable to the orders they had received :—That the nabob did not expreſs any change of ſentiments when he offered the preſents at the durbar, but that they were induced to receive them by his ſaying he ſhould look upon them as his enemies if they did not; and being aſked, he ſaid he conſidered the abovementioned inſtances of Myr Jaffier and Coſſim Ally Cawn making preſents, as ſimilar to the preſent occaſion, though on the acceſſion of Myr Jaffier and Coſſim Ally Cawn, neither of them was in conſequence of the death of their predeceſſors: And being aſked what ſervices the deputies had done the nabob, he ſaid he looked upon the ſolemnity of ſeating him on the muſnud to be the ſervices meant, that never having been done in a public manner till the deputies performed the ceremony: And being aſked if he thought any article of the treaty was agreeable to the nabob, he ſaid that ſome of the articles were not agreeable to him when the treaty was propoſed to him, but he expreſſed himſelf ſatisfied with it ſome time afterwards. Being aſked whether any other preſents were made than thoſe he had mentioned, he ſaid that the nabob made Mr. Spencer, the governor of Bengal, a preſent of two lacks of rupees, and gave one lack each to three of the council, Meſſ. Pleydell, Gray, and Burdett, and 50,000 rupees to Mr. Gideon Johnſtone :—That ſome time afterwards he made an additional preſent of one lack of rupees to Mr. John Johnſtone. And being deſired to ſtate the circumſtances of that preſent, he ſaid, that a ſhort time before Mr. Johnſtone left the city, when the witneſs was with him, and, as he believes, Mr. Middleton, at the durbar, he heard the nabob and Mr. Johnſtone in earneſt diſcourſe:—That on aſking Mr. Johnſtone what was the ſubject of their converſation, he told him the nabob had ſent him an offer the day before to Mootejil, by Mahomed Reza Cawn, of a lack of rupees, which he had then refuſed, and that the nabob was then requeſting him to accept it—That he had again refuſed it; and he aſked the witneſs's opinion of the matter, who ſaid, that if the nabob had made him the like offers he ſhould think no harm in accepting it; whereupon the witneſs believed Mr. Johnſtone did accept it: And being aſked if Mr. Gideon Johnſtone was a member of the board, or in the Company's ſervice at that time, he ſaid he was not at the board, but afterwards received his appointment to the ſervice as a writer: And being aſked, he ſaid he had never heard that any other Engliſhman out of the Company's ſervice had received any preſent upon the like occaſion; and that there were no other Engliſh, beſide Mr. Gideon Johnſtone, out of the Company's ſervice at the nabob's court at that time: And being aſked whether at that period he had had any offers of preſents from Nundcomar, he ſaid that ſome days before the arrival of the other deputies, Nundcomar paid him a viſit at the factory at Coſſimbuzar, when he made the witneſs an offer of five lacks of rupees, and alſo told him in the preſence of Mr. Jeykill, that if he would give him a promiſe to withhold his favour from Mahomed Reza Cawn, the above ſum ſhould be ſent into the factory that night or the next morning, but that he refuſed the preſent on account of the conditions on which it was offered. And being aſked if he knew of any influence or ſolicitation to the abovementioned preſents from Mahomed Reza Cawn? he ſaid he did not; and that if he had ever ſuſpected that there had been any application for that purpoſe, he would not have accepted any preſents from him; that he had rendered ſome perſonal ſervices to Mahomed Reza Cawn before that of appointing him naib ſubah, and after Myr Jaffier returned to the army, by protecting him from the ill uſage of Nundcomar; but that he never in return made the witneſs an offer of preſents till the acceſſion of Nudjum ul Dowlah; and that on that occaſion the witneſs was not particularly diſtinguiſhed by him. And being aſked how much of the four lacks of rupees which were offered to the gentlemen of the deputation was actually received, he ſaid he had received 50,000 rupees of his own ſhare, but that neither Mr. Leyceſter or Mr. Johnſtone received theirs: That Mr. Leyceſter mentioned to the witneſs, ſome time in March, that for particular reaſons he ſhould not receive his ſhare of Mahomed Reza Cawn's preſent :—And being aſked, he ſaid that Mahomed Reza Cawn called upon him in the factory, about the 14th or 15th of May 1765, on his way to Calcutta, and ſhewed him a letter he had received from Lord Clive, requeſting his attendance at Calcutta; and that though the letter was wrote in genteel terms, yet being naturally of a timid diſpoſition, he expreſſed great fears on the occaſion; that the witneſs endeavoured to remove thoſe fears, by aſſuring him, that he knew Lord Clive very well, and that no harm was intended him, but that he would be civilly treated; and took an opportunity of mentioning to him, that as Mr. Leyceſter had ſignified to him his objections to accepting the preſents he had offered him, the witneſs ſhould beg leave to return thoſe which he had given him; That Mahomed Reza Cawn replied with ſome ſurprize, that he did not look upon the witneſs in the ſame light as the other gentlemen; that he had ſhewed himſelf his particular friend on many occaſions, even to ſaving the lives of him and his family, at a time when it was not in his power to make him any acknowlegement, but that now, when it was in his power, he begged and intreated, with tears in his eyes, that the witneſs would not return his preſent. That thoſe conſiderations, together with his not being at that time a ſitting member at the board, and his having ſome thoughts of quitting the ſervice and returning to Europe that ſeaſon, by which it could not be

ſuppoſed

ſuppoſed that he took the preſent for any future conſiderations, induced him to keep it. And being aſked what preſents were made by Juggut Seet? he ſaid that he received 10,000 rupees, and heard that he intended to make it up 30,000 to each of the deputies:—That he apprehended Juggut Seet's reaſon for offering thoſe preſents was, to induce the gentlemen to recommend him to the new nabob, his favour and protection being uſeful and neceſſary to him in his buſineſs as a banker:—That he did not know of any other ſums of money being given to the gentlemen of the deputation or of the council, than thoſe he had mentioned; and that though he heard the Company intended to ſend out freſh covenants to their ſervants, reſpecting the accepting of preſents, that he did not know the conditions of them till they were ſent up to him to be executed at Coſſimbuzar, in the beginning of June 1765.

And your Committee examined General Carnac upon the ſubject of preſents, who being aſked, When he ſigned the covenants, (copies of which are entered in the journals of this Houſe of laſt year) relating to preſents? he ſaid it was ſome time after his arrival at Calcutta, about the middle of September 1765, and that he diſtributed them among the army under his command as ſoon as they came to his hands, which was not till near the end of July or the beginning of Auguſt, with orders to execute them immediately:—That he had not ſigned them himſelf at the time he gave orders to the army to execute them, becauſe they were dated from a period prior to his having any intimation of them;—that thoſe diſtributed among the army were all dated from the ſame time; and that he did not make any alterations in them before he required the officers to ſign them; it not being his buſineſs to ſtart objections for other people; but that if they had made the ſame objections as he had done, he ſhould have thought them in the right:—And being aſked whether Captain Swinton, his aid de camp, ſigned the covenants? he ſaid he had not, neither had they been tendered to him. That he looked upon the captain more as a volunteer than actually in the ſervice, as he had declared his determination of returning to Europe that ſeaſon, long before the receipt of the covenants; and that his ſtay in Bengal, which was very ſhort after that time, was in compliment to the witneſs:—And being aſked if it was not his duty, as commander in chief of the army, to ſet the example of reſpect and deference to his conſtituents, by ſigning the covenants? he ſaid he certainly ſhould have ſigned them but for the reaſon above ſtated:—And being aſked, whether, when the covenants were diſtributed to the officers of the army, they had any intimation given them, that the general and his aid de camp had not ſigned them? he ſaid, they had not any ſuch intimation from him.—And being aſked what preſents he received, from the time the covenants arrived in 1765 to the time he ſigned them, he premiſed, That he did not know, till long afterwards, that the covenants had arrived in 1765; and ſaid, That after that time, but previous to his knowing any thing of the covenants, he received a preſent of 80,000 rupees from Bulwantſing, raja of Benaras, and in September, then knowing of the covenants, the king made him a preſent of two lacks of rupees in the manner as ſtands recorded on the conſultations of that period:—That Bulwantſing's preſent was publicly known, but that he never tranſmitted any notice of it in form to the governor and council; and the following words, in a minute ſigned by the witneſs at a conſultation the 3d of February 1766, being read; viz. "I never received from him (Sujah Dowlah) for my own uſe a ſingle rupee"—And the witneſs being aſked, whether he ever received any from him for the uſe of any other perſon? he ſaid he never did.

And your Committee purſuing their inquiry into the circumſtances of the preſents mentioned in the above evidence; and the original covenant ſigned by General Carnac being produced, they find that it is dated the 9th of November 1765; but in the minute of General Carnac, on the Bengal conſultations of the 3d of February 1766, your Committee find the following words; viz. "With regard to the covenants, it is true, I did not execute mine at the time of my firſt renewing "them, becauſe they were dated too far back, and previouſly to my being made acquainted with "them; and I was in the leſs hurry to go through this ceremony, by reaſon that I looked upon "myſelf as equally bound by them, whether executed or not, from the moment I was publicly "apprized of the Company's pleaſure on that ſubject."

And your Committee further find, That by the terms of the covenant the ſervants of the Company are bound to account for, and pay, to the ſaid Company, for their ſole and proper uſe and benefit, all and every ſuch gifts, rewards, gratuities, allowances, donations, or compenſations, whatſoever, which, contrary to the true intent and meaning of thoſe covenants, ſhall have come into their hands, poſſeſſion, or power.

And your Committee do not find that the preſent of two lacks of rupees received by General Carnac has ever been paid to the Company; but that notice was given to the Court of Directors of the receipt thereof, by the general letter from the council, and a letter from Lord Clive, dated 30 September 1765 (copies of which are hereunto annexed N° 72 and 73) That the Court of Directors, by their anſwers of the 17th of May 1766 (copies of which are alſo annexed, N° 74) promiſed to take the ſame into conſideration; but the Committee have not diſcovered by the records of the Company, that any thing further has been done relating thereto.

And your Committee having gone through the inquiries to which the firſt examination upon the deputation to Nudjum ul Dowlah immediately led, and likewiſe through their inquiry into the pre-

 ſents

ſents received by General Carnac ſubſequent thereto, they thought this a proper occaſion, though they might in ſome degree deviate from the courſe they had preſcribed to themſelves for preſerving the order of time, to connect and lay before the Houſe all other diſcoveries which have yet come within the compaſs of their proceedings upon the ſubject of preſents.

And William Macgwire, Eſquire, being examined in regard to preſents received at the time of the revolution in favour of Coſſim Ally Cawn, upon which ſubject many circumſtances are ſtated upon the journals of laſt ſeſſion: He informed your Committee that he was a member of the ſelect committee at Bengal at that time; that he was not preſent at any meeting when a ſum of money was offered by Myr Coſſim, but heard from Mr. Vanſittart that an offer of twenty lacks was made as a preſent, after he was eſtabliſhed in the nabobſhip, which offer was rejected by Mr. Vanſittart, who informed the witneſs that he had told Coſſim he would not receive any preſent till all the demands of the Company were ſatisfied. And being aſked if he had ever received any part of the above ſum, ſo offered by Myr Coſſim? he ſaid he had received a preſent from him in the year 1761, to the amount of one lack and 80,000 rupees:—And being aſked what circumſtances attended the receipt of that preſent? he ſaid that an agent brought him a teep, the latter end of the year 1760, for two lacks of rupees, which teep he ſent to Mr. Holwell;—That he communicated the affair to ſome of the ſelect committee in private converſation; but could not recollect he told Mr. Vanſittart of it; and that he never reported it to the ſelect committee officially.—That he heard that ſome other gentlemen of the ſelect committee received preſents at the ſame time.—That the above ſum is all he received at any time, except the 5000 mohurs, mentioned in a former part of this report.

And your Committee having obſerved, in ſome letters which paſſed between Lord Clive and the Court of Directors, in the year 1768, which were laid before your Committee purſuant to their order, and copies of which, with the incloſure in the letter of 14 January 1768, are annexed in the Appendix, N° 75 and 76, That the Court of Directors had required from his lordſhip certain papers ſaid to be in his poſſeſſion, and to contain proofs of Governor Vanſittart's having received ſeven lacks of rupees for making the Mongheer treaty; and further obſerving from the ſame correſpondence, that his lordſhip had ordered the delivery of them, expreſſing as his reaſon for ſo doing that Mr. Vanſittart himſelf ſeemed deſirous of it; your Committee called for the ſaid papers from the Directors; and the following were produced accordingly:

Letter from Mr. Walſh, accompanying the delivery of the papers to the Directors, dated 19th of June 1768, and mentioning Mr. Vanſittart's requeſt upon that ſubject.

Depoſition of Sheik Hedayet Alla, the original in Perſian, ſworn before Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, and the tranſlation atteſted by W. H. Coxe, ſworn tranſlator; purporting, That in December, in the year 1762, when he was treaſurer under the nabob, he iſſued, by his excellency's commands, two lacks at four different payments to Mr. Vanſittart; and that two ladies who were in company with the governor went into the zenana, and received jewels.

Depoſition of Bolackidaſs, ſahicar or banker, the original in Perſian, ſworn before Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, and the tranſlation atteſted by W. H. Coxe, as above; purporting, That, in December 1762, the nabob (for whom he was employed in negociating bills) one or two days before Mr. Vanſittart's departure for Azimebad, ſignified to him his pleaſure, that he ſhould tranſmit the ſum of five lacks of rupees to Mr. Vanſittart in Calcutta; in conſequence of which he wrote to his gomaſtah at Hooghly, to pay the aforeſaid amount into Mr. Vanſittart's hands: that the gomaſtah did ſo, and gave him information thereof.

Letter from Mr. Vanſittart to the Court of Directors, containing his anſwer to the above charge, and his ſentiments thereupon.

Letter from Bolackidaſs to Mr. Vanſittart, wrote ſoon after he had made his affidavit, and incloſed in Mr. Vanſittart's letter to the Directors.

And your Committee have added copies of all thoſe papers in their Appendix, N° 77, 78, 79, 80, and 81.

The next proceedings of your Committee, upon the ſubjects of preſents, relate to the ſum of five lacks of rupees received by Lord Clive from the begum, or mother of the nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, in the year 1766; but as your Committee have not had time to go through all the evidence reſpecting this tranſaction, and examine the account on which the ſame is alleged to have been received, or the application ſaid to be made thereof, they purpoſe to report upon the ſame on ſome future day.

Your Committee have no further matter to lay before the Houſe upon the ſubject of preſents; but, in order to give the Houſe a ſummary and comprehenſive view of the whole they have hitherto diſcovered upon an object ſo important, they have thought proper to add the following ſchedule.

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT of such SUMS as have been proved or acknowledged before the Committee to have been distributed by the princes and other natives of Bengal, from the year 1757 to the year 1766, both inclusive; distinguishing the principal times of the said distributions, and specifying the sums received by each person respectively.

Revolution in favour of Meer Jaffier in 1757.

Mr. Drake (Governor)	R.	Rs. 280,000	£.31,500
Colonel Clive as second in the select Committee	Rs. 280,000		
Ditto as Commander in chief	200,000		
Ditto as a private donation	* 1600,000		
		20,80,000	234,000
Mr. Watts as a member of the Committee	240,000		
Ditto as a private donation	800,000		
		1040,000	117,000
Major Kilpatrick		240,000	27,000
Ditto as a private donation		300,000	33,750
Mr. Maningham		240,000	27,000
Mr. Becher		240,000	27,000
Six members of council one lack each		600,000	68,200
Mr. Walsh		500,000	56,250
Mr. Scrafton		200,000	22,500
Mr. Lushington		50,000	5,625
Captain Grant		100,000	11,250
Stipulation to the Navy and Army			600,000
			£. 1,261,075
Memorandum, The sum of two lacks to Lord Clive as Commander in chief must be deducted from this account, it being included in the donation to the Army			22,500
Lord Clive's Jaghire was likewise obtained at this period.			£. 1,238,575

* It appears, by the extract in the appendix No. 102, from the evidence given on the trial of Ram-Churn before the governor and council in 1761, by Roy Dulip, who had the principal management in the distribution of the treasures of the deceased Nabob Serajah Dowla, upon the accession of Jaffier Ally Cawn—that Roy Dulip then received as a present from Colonel Clive one lack 25,000 rupees, being five per cent. on 25 lack. It does not appear that this evidence was taken on oath.

Revolution in favour of Coſſim, 1760.

Mr. Sumner		28,000
Mr. Holwell	Rs. 270,000	30,937
Mr. Mc Gwire	180,000	20,625
Mr. Smyth	134,000	15,354
Major York	134,000	15,354
General Caillaud	200,000	22,916
Mr. Vanſittart, 1762, received ſeven lacks; but the two lacks to General Caillaud are included; ſo that only five lacks muſt be accounted for here	500,000	58,333
Mr. Mc Gwire 5000 gold mohrs	75,000	8,750
		£. 200,269

Revolution in favour of Jaffier, 1763.

Stipulation to the Army	Rs. 2500,000	£. 291,666
Ditto to the Navy	1250,000	145,833
		437,499

Major Munro * in 1764 received from Bulwan Sing		10,000
Ditto from the nabob		3,000
The Officers belonging to Major Munro's family from ditto		3,000
The Army received from the merchants at Banaras	Rs. 400,000	46,666
		£. 62,666

* It appears Colonel Munro accepted a jaghire from the king, of £. 12,500 a year, which he delivered to the nabob Meer Jaffier, the circumſtances of which are ſtated in the journals of laſt year, 825.

Nudjum ul Dowla's Acceſſion, 1765.

Mr. Spencer	200,000	23,333
Meſſieurs Playdell, Burdett, and Gray, One Lack each	300,000	35,000
Mr. Johnſtone	237,000	27,650
Mr. Leyceſter	112,500	13,125
Mr. Senior	172,500	20,125
Mr. Middleton	122,500	14,291
Mr. Gideon Johnſtone	50,000	5,833
	£.	139,357

These ſums appear by evidence to have been received by the parties; but the Committee think proper to ſtate, That Mahomed Reza Cawn intended a preſent of one lack of rupees to each of the four deputies ſent to treat with Nudjum ul Dowla upon his father's death; viz. Meſſieurs Johnſtone, Leyceſter, Senior, and Middleton; but that Mr. Middleton and Mr. Leyceſter affirm that they never accepted theirs, and Mr. Johnſtone appears to have tendered his back to Mahomed Reza Cawn, who would not accept them. Theſe bills (except Mr. Senior's, for 50,000 rupees) appear to have been afterwards laid before the Select Committee, and no further evidence has been produced to your Committee concerning them. Mr. Senior received 50,000 rupees of his, and it is ſtated againſt him in this account.

General Carnac received from Bulwantſing in 1765	Rs. 80,000	9,333
Ditto — — from the King	200,000	23,333
Lord Clive received from the Begum in 1766	500,000	58,333
	£.	90,999

Reſtitution——Jaffier, 1757.

Eaſt India Company	£. 1,200,000
Europeans	600,000
Natives	250,000
Armenians	100,000
	£. 2,150,000

Coſſim 1760.

East India Company		£. 62,500

Jaffier 1763.

East India Company		£. 375,000
Europeans, Natives, &c		£. 600,000
		£. 975,000

Peace with Sujah Dowla.

East India Company	Rs. 50,00,000	£. 583,333	
Total of Preſents, £. 2,169,665,	Reſtitution, &c. 3,770,833	Total Amount £. 5,940,498	Excluſive of Lord Clive's Jaghire.

Memorandum, The rupees are valued according to the rate of exchange of the Company's bills at the different periods.

Your

Your Committee think it right, next to ſtate to the Houſe, their inquiries into the tranſactions of the Company's ſervants, relative to the affairs in Bengal, from the date of Lord Clive's government in the year 1764; and they find, that on the 2d of May of that year, Lord Clive, then in England, was ſworn in preſident and governor of Bengal, and commander in chief of the forces there; and that Meſſieurs Sumner and Sykes, then alſo in England, were appointed counſellors at that preſidency, the former to ſucceed to the government. And your Committee further find, that Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, General Carnac, Mr. Verelſt, and Mr. Sykes, were appointed a ſelect committee, by a letter of the court of Directors, dated the 1ſt of June 1764. which letter, containing the powers with which the ſaid committee were veſted, is in the Appendix.

And your Committee find that Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, and Mr. Sykes, ſailed from England for India the 4th of June 1764, and that they arrived at Madraſs the 2d of April 1765.

And your Committee being informed, that Lord Clive, in conſequence of intelligence he received at Madraſs of the ſituation of the company's affairs in Bengal, had wrote from thence two letters of material conſequence, which did not ſtand upon the Company's records, the one to Mr. Rous, the other to Mr. Walſh, and partly in cypher, they proceeded to inquire into that tranſaction; and for that purpoſe they examined Peter Michel, Eſq; who being aſked, if he knew of any letter written in cypher from Lord Clive to Mr. Walſh, in 1765? he ſaid, he had ſuch a letter—that it is dated the 17th of April 1765, and was delivered to him by Mr. James, the late ſecretary, as an official paper——that the original letter appeared to have been put into Mr. James's hands by Mr. Rous, about the 29th of March 1766, part of it being in cypher, in order to be decyphered, the key of the cypher being in the poſſeſſion of Mr. James, who in a day or two afterwards delivered it to the witneſs that he might decypher it——which being done, he returned it, together with the decyphered copy, to Mr. James, by whoſe direction he afterwards made another copy of it, which he alſo delivered to Mr. James; upon whoſe quitting the office it again came into the poſſeſſion of the witneſs.——Being aſked, Whether any of the Directors, except the members of the Secret Committee, at that time knew any thing of that letter? he ſaid, he believed not; and that he did not know what became of the original letter.——And two letters were produced, that to Mr. Rous containing various intelligence and opinions of Lord Clive, reſpecting the affairs of Bengal——.hat to Mr. Walſh containing directions to his lordſhip's attornies to make purchaſes in India ſtock, and the ſaid letters are added in the appendix, N° 82 and 83.

Your Committee then called George Dudley, Eſquire, who informed your Committee he was deputy chairman of the Eaſt India Company, at the time Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Walſh arrived in England——that it was brought to the Secret Committee, when, he believed, only Meſſieurs Rous, Boulton, and himſelf were preſent——that they afterwards held a Secret Committee, and from thence carried the letter to the Court of Directors——that the letter to Mr. Walſh was not read in the Court of Directors; that to Mr. Rous (which arrived at the ſame time) was, except the laſt paragraph, which mentioned that there was a letter to Mr. Walſh; and that nothing was done upon it. And it appeared by the ſame evidence, that the above mentioned letter from Lord Clive to Mr. Rous was brought by the witneſs to the Secret Committee, the 30th of March 1766——Being aſked if he remembered any propoſition for burning the letter, or taking a copy of it, or any ſelf-denying obligation, which the gentlemen preſent entered into not to deal in ſtock, in conſequence of it? he ſaid, That the gentlemen preſent did take a copy of it, which copy is now in the office; but that he did not remember any of the other particulars of the queſtion; that the Secret Committee having the key to the cypher, they kept a copy of the letter of courſe, that the whole Committee might know all their tranſactions; and that a copy of the letter was given to Mr. Walſh——that they did not communicate the intelligence, that Lord Clive had given orders to lay out all his money in the India ſtock to the proprietors nor the Court of Directors——that the purport of the letter to Mr. Walſh was communicated to Meſſieurs Rous, Boulton, and himſelf, but never laid before the whole Secret Committee.——Being aſked, why the Secret Committee concealed from the Court of Directors one part of the letter to Mr. Rous? he ſaid, That to the beſt of his remembrance Mr. Rous deſired it might be ſo, as he conceived the letter to be a private letter to himſelf, and that he had a right to conceal what part of it he thought proper; and the witneſs ſaid, he concurred with Mr. Rous in thinking it was a private letter. And being aſked, he ſaid, that Lord Clive did not write a public letter, either to the Court of Directors or Secret Committee at that time, but that Mr. Rous's letter was read to the Court of Directors by the ſecretary as an entire letter, and not as an extract. And being aſked if he knew the reaſon of Lord Clive's letters to Meſſieurs Walſh and Rous being written in cypher? he ſaid, he imagined it was, that the contents might not be known to our enemies, as the letter came by a French ſhip from Pondicherry. Being aſked, if he thought the Secret Committee had a power to ſuppreſs any part of a letter on the public ſervice? he ſaid, he thought not; and that they never did conceal any parts of a public letter, to the beſt of his knowlege——that the laſt paragraph of Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Rous was concealed, and no

other

other—the reſt being of a public nature—And being aſked, if Lord Clive's letters to Meſſieurs Rous and Walſh could have been decyphered by any means but bringing them to the India houſe, he ſaid, he believed not; becauſe there was no key that he knew of, except that at the India houſe——that the Company's ſecretary has the key in his cuſtody, which cannot be procured by any but the chairman and deputy chairman jointly, as the witneſs believed.——And being aſked, if every director or member of the Company has a right to have private letters written to him, under the Company's cypher, he ſaid he did not know of any being ſent before this——that they cannot help their being ſent, but would find a difficulty to get them decyphered without the Company's key——that though the witneſs never conſidered Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Rous as an official one, that the Directors acted in all reſpects as if it had been one; and that it was communicated to the Court of Directors in order to make it public.

Your Committee then examined the right honourable Lord Clive, a member of the Houſe, who being aſked, Whether it was his intention that his letter to Mr. Rous in cypher, of the 17th of April 1765, ſhould be kept ſecret? and the letter being read to his lordſhip, he ſaid, He did not intend that that letter ſhould be kept ſecret from the Court of Directors or Mr. Walſh, though he meant that Mr. Walſh ſhould not divulge the contents of it, becauſe it was of a political nature:—And being aſked, In what public ſtation reſpecting the Eaſt India Company Mr. Walſh was, that his lordſhip conceived the political matters, which ſhould be kept ſecret from all others but the Directors, ſhould be communicated to him? he ſaid, That Mr. Walſh was not in any public ſtation whatever belonging to the Company at that time, but that he was his lordſhip's particular friend—had formerly been a ſervant of the Company s abroad for many years, and from the revolution of Plaſſey till a conſiderable time afterwards was his ſecretary, and was intruſted with all the political tranſactions during the time that his lordſhip was in the command of the army, and likewiſe a part of the time of his government in Bengal:—And being aſked, If, when his lordſhip wrote his letter to Mr. Rous, in which he ſpeaks of undertaking the Herculean labour of cleanſing the Augean ſtable, he had been informed of any fact to intitle him to make uſe of that expreſſion; he ſaid, He had information of many—and that the whole of Mr. Vanſittart's narrative was laid before him by Mr. Palk:—That it was not from that narrative alone he made uſe of the expreſſion, but from various accounts that he had from every body he met:—And being aſked, If he could particularize any fact told him by any perſon, upon which he founded his letter to Mr. Rous, he referred to the public records of the Company—and that he heard a confirmation of them from many perſons, particularly of the Company's ſervants carrying on the trade in ſalt at firſt duty free, and afterwards on paying two and a half per cent. and all contrary to the Company's orders: He is not certain of that fact, but is ſure that when Mr. Vanſittart had eſtabliſhed, by agreement with Coſſim, the duty of nine per cent. the majority of the council denied Mr. Vanſittart's authority, and inſiſted upon their right to trade duty free, by virtue of the royal phirmaund, at the ſame time that they inſiſted that Coſſim Ally Cawn ſhould not ſuffer his own ſubjects to trade duty free:—That on this fact and many others he founded the expreſſion of cleanſing the Augean ſtable. A further inſtance he mentioned, which was the complaints of the inhabitants, that the Company's ſervants and the agents acting under them had engroſſed and monopolized the whole trade of the country; and the witneſs being again requeſted to ſpecify any particular complaint, he declined ſpecifying any more, and referred the Committee to the Company's records:—Being aſked, If he thought the conduct of the council, in refuſing to conform to the treaty made by Mr. Vanſittart at Mongheer, agreeing to pay nine per cent. was improper?—he ſaid, He thought that part of the treaty was improper, becauſe in his opinion they ought to have paid a great deal more:—That he did not think the whole treaty was proper, neither did he think Mr. Vanſittart was authorized to conclude a treaty without laying it before the council; and that General Carnac, Mr. Vereliſt, and Mr. Cartier, gave it as their opinion, that the Company's ſervants had a right to trade duty free by the royal phirmaund; and that with reſpect to the duty of nine per cent. Mr. Vanſittart had no right to conclude ſuch a treaty with the nabob; and that he conſidered the inhabitants of Bengal as ſubjects to the nabob, becauſe the mogul's power was annihilated:—And being aſked, If he admitted that he had formed a reſolution at Madraſs to ſeize the Dewannee—diſmiſs part of the Company's ſervants, and to call ſome of the ſenior ſervants from the other ſettlements to fill up their places, upon his arrival at Bengal? his lordſhip ſaid, He did not admit he had formed any one of thoſe reſolutions at that time.

Your Committee next examined John Walſh, Eſquire, a member of the Houſe, who informed them, that he was one of Lord Clive's attornies when he was abroad:—And being aſked, What quantity of India ſtock he purchaſed for Lord Clive, in conſequence of the letter in cypher from Madraſs to him, on the 17th of April 1765?—he ſaid, That letter was received the 30th of March 1766, and that on the 20th of April following the packet of the Admiral Stevens, forwarded from Liſbon, brought public advices from Lord Clive, then at Bengal, relative to our being in poſſeſſion of the Dewannee; in which interval Lord Clive's attornies bought for him £. 12,000 principal ſtock, which was fairly bought and paid for; and as the witneſs believed, it

was

was a year at leaſt before any part of it was ſold out:—That it was ſold out, and was not employed in buying in again, but was diſpoſed of to complete a purchaſe of land that Lord Clive had made:—That he did not make any ſecret of the opinion he entertained at that time of India ſtock, but ſpoke of it to many perſons as a very beneficial thing, ſome of whom, as he underſtood, bought in conſequence:—That a great part of Lord Clive's ſaid ſtock was bought at £. 165¼:—That after the arrival of the packet, brought by the Admiral Stevens, ſome ſtock was bought for Lord Clive at £. 175, and ſome at £. 179; and that Eaſt India ſtock remained at £. 190 three or four months afterwards:—And being aſked the amount of the other purchaſes made for Lord Clive? he ſaid, That after the arrival of the public advices, there was bought on the 21ſt of April, 13,000*l.* at 175*l.* and 5,000*l.* at 179*l.* on the 9th of May, being the whole that was bought for Lord Clive while he was abroad; and he added, that Lord Clive's letter to him was delivered to him by Lady Clive, at the ſame time that Mr. Rous received his letter, they being both at her ladyſhip's houſe:—That Mr. Rous and the witneſs went to the India-houſe together to have their letters decyphered:—That as it was ſunday, neither the chairman nor deputy chairman were there, without whoſe orders the letters could not be decyphered:—That he therefore left his letter with Mr. Rous till he could obtain that permiſſion, and went the next day to the India-houſe, and received from the chairman the contents of his letter decyphered, but was refuſed any information of the contents of the letter to Mr. Rous:—And being aſked when he firſt had any communication of the contents of Lord Clive's letter to Mr. Rous, he ſaid he had a copy of it tranſmitted to him by Lord Clive, by the packet of the Admiral Steven, the 24th of April; and being aſked if he could enumerate any of thoſe perſons who made purchaſes of Eaſt India ſtock, in conſequence of the good opinion he had declared concerning it, as mentioned in the former part of his evidence, he ſaid he could not:—That he underſtood ſo, but did not know at what periods, or to what amount, they purchaſed; that he converſed generally among his acquaintance, which at that time was very large, on the advantageous ſituation of the Eaſt India Company:—That from the nomination of Lord Clive to go abroad, the witneſs entertained hopes that great advantage would enſue to the Company, and was, in conſequence, a large ſtock-holder himſelf;—That he therefore, probably, ſpoke of the advantageous ſituation of the Company, before the receipt of Lord Clive's letter, but that he doubtleſs ſpoke more of it afterwards, and was induced ſo to do by the contents of that letter, which were, a direction from Lord Clive to purchaſe ſtock for him, and that therefore the witneſs could not but conceive it in his lordſhip's idea a beneficial thing; and he obſerved, that it was only twenty days after the arrival of Lord Clive's letter, in cypher, that the public advices of our being in poſſeſſion of the Dewannee were received:—And being aſked how many attornies Lord Clive had at that time, he ſaid five, to all of whom an extract of ſuch part of the abovementioned letter as related to the purchaſe of Eaſt India ſtock was communicated:—That their powers were jointly given, and not ſeparate, ſo that he could ſpeak with certainty that no more ſtock was bought for Lord Clive by any of thoſe attornies than as before ſtated, nor any bargains for the purchaſe of ſtock made.

And your Committee find that Lord Clive, Meſſ. Sumner and Sykes, arrived at Calcutta on the 3d of May 1765, and took their ſeats at the council on the 5th. And your Committee, in order to give the Houſe the fulleſt information they can of the tranſactions of the ſelect committee, have annexed hereunto, N° 84, a copy of their proceedings from the 7th of May to the 10th of Auguſt 1765.

That on the 7th Lord Clive, Meſſ. Sumner and Sykes, aſſembled as members of the ſelect committee, aſſuming the whole power of the ſettlement, civil and military, and that they adminiſtered to themſelves and their ſecretaries an oath of ſecreſy; that they acquainted General Carnac and Mr. Verelſt, the other members of the committee named by the Court of Directors, with thoſe determinations, and required the immediate attendance of Mr. Verelſt, then at Chittagong, General Carnac being at that time at the head of the army in the province of Oude.

That Lord Clive opened the committee, by a letter containing the full declaration of his lordſhip's own intentions, and his ſenſe of the particular duty of the ſelect committee, (a copy of which letter is contained in the 84th N° of the Appendix;) to which letter the ſelect committee replied at their next meeting on the 11th, (copy of which reply is alſo in the 84th N° of the Appendix.)

And your Committee thinking the proceedings of the ſelect committee of Bengal of great importance for the Houſe to know diſtinctly, they have divided their inquiries reſpecting thoſe proceedings into the following heads:

1ſt. The meaſures they took reſpecting the execution of covenants.

2d. Recalling the European agents.

3d. Their examination into the nabob's complaints, and into the conduct of the ſervants concerned therein.

4th. Eſtabliſhment of the treaty, purporting to be a treaty of peace with Sujah Dowlah, and the acquiſition of the Dewannee.

5th. Eſtabliſhment and progreſs of the ſalt ſociety, and other matters relative to that trade.

Your Committee find, that at the meeting of the 7th, the ſelect committee of Bengal reſolved to enforce immediately the execution of the new covenants againſt receiving preſents, by the ſervants of the Company from the Indian powers, a duplicate of which covenant, and a duplicate of the letter from the Directors of the 1ſt of June 1764, requiring the execution of them, arrived on the 24th of January 1765, but had not been at this time executed by any one of the Company's ſervants: nor does your Committee diſcover from the records, that the then governor, Mr. Spencer, had publicly brought the matter under the conſideration of the council board; nor had any notice been given to the other ſervants of the Company, that they were required to execute ſuch covenants.—And your Committee find, that the ſaid covenants were executed according to the direction of the ſelect committee, firſt by the members of the council, and the ſervants reſident on the ſpot, and afterwards tranſmitted to the army and factories, where they were alſo executed; except by General Carnac and Mr. Swinton, whoſe reaſons for not complying are ſtated in the former part of this report.—And in regard to the tranſactions of recalling European merchants, which your Committee ſtated as the ſecond head of inquiry, becauſe it followed in order of time upon the proceedings of the ſelect committee, it appears that upon the 11th the ſelect committee reſolved upon the recall of all free merchants reſiding up the country, within one month after notice; and that orders were ſent to the chiefs to convey in ſafety to Calcutta all who refuſed to comply; and the reaſons alleged for this order will appear in the reſolution which is inſerted at large in the Appendix, No. 84.

Your Committee alſo find, that another order was iſſued at the ſame time, for ſecuring and bringing to Calcutta all Europeans who had no Claim from the indentures to any ſhare of the Company's countenance and protection.

Your Committee find that there are many ſubſequent regulations and orders relative to this ſubject, which they will report in the courſe of their proceedings upon the inland trade, to which they refer.

And in regard to the proceedings of the ſelect committee in Bengal—upon the examinations of the nabob's complaints, and the anſwers paſſed in conſequence thereof, it appears that on the 1ſt of June the ſaid committee conſiſted of four members, viz. Lord Clive, Meſſrs. Sumner, Sykes, and Verelſt; and that they took under their conſideration a letter from the nabob, who had arrived ſome time before at Calcutta, complaining of the conduct of Mahomet Reza Cawn, and of the gentlemen of the deputation ſent to Muxadabad upon the death of Myr Jaffier, reſpecting ſums of money diſtributed among ſuch perſons as he thought proper, without the knowlegde of the nabob; and the ſelect committee came to the following reſolution: "That Mahomed Reza Cawn, "ſince the death of the late nabob, has diſtributed among certain perſons, near twenty lacks of "rupees.—And that it is incumbent upon them to diſcover to whom ſuch ſums have been paid, "and for what conſideration, in order that the moſt effectual meaſures may be purſued to reme- "dy for the preſent, and to prevent for the future, any dangerous conſequences which may have "ariſen, or which may ariſe, not only to the country government, but likewiſe to the Compa- "ny, from ſuch practices." Upon the 6th of June the ſelect committee of Bengal appear by their proceedings to have taken under their conſideration, a narrative from Mahomed Reza Cawn, in anſwer to the charge againſt him by the nabob, in his letter of the 1ſt; and alſo a narrative from Juggut Seet, a noted banker, that ſums of money had been unduly obtained from him by the gentlemen of the deputation mentioned above; and on the 7th and 8th the committee proſecuted the ſame inquiries, by examining Mooteram, phouſdar of Hooghly, and Buſſantroy his ſervant; and that on the 21ſt of June the ſelect committee came to the following unanimous reſolution: "That Mr. Johnſtone has actually received the ſeveral ſums, in money and bills, ſpecified for his "uſe in the general accounts of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet—that he appears from "the evidences entered in our proceedings to have been a principal agent and manager in obtain- "ing and diſtributing the preſents, but unacquainted, they would willingly ſuppoſe, with the "menaces uſed by Mooteram in his name to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet, in order to "extort a ſum of money from the latter for the uſe of the deputation—and laſtly, that he is guilty "of actual diſobedience to the Company's orders, in arraigning indecently, and refuſing poſitive- "ly to acknowlege, the authority wherewith the ſelect committee are inveſted by the honourable "the Court of Directors, and by urging their uſurped powers in excuſe for declining any reply to "charges that ſo deeply affect his character.

"That Mr. Senior has received all the money ſpecified for his uſe in the evidence already men- "tioned, and alſo the further ſum of 50,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn on his own ac- "count; but that he neither authorized the meſſages delivered by Mooteram, nor was active in "obtaining or diſtributing the preſents.

"That Mr. Middleton has received preſents from the nabob and Juggut Seet only, firmly be- "lieving them to be voluntary; and that he always intended to refuſe the preſent deſigned him "by Mahomed Reza Cawn.

"That

" That Mr. Leyceſter has received the ſeveral ſums affixed to his name in the abovemention-
" ed accounts; but that he neither did nor intended to receive the bills lodged with Mooteram
" for his uſe, nor was any way concerned in the menaces thrown out by that perſon to Mahomed
" Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet; all which is further confirmed by the oath which he voluntarily
" took before the whole board.

" That Meſſrs. Pleydell, Burdett, and Gray, have each received 50,000 rupees from the na-
" bob, in the full perſuaſion that the ſame was a free gift to the gentlemen who then compoſed
" the board, without any application on their parts, or conſideration on the nabob's for ſervices
" performed.

" That Mr. Cartier was utterly a ſtranger to any demands made in his name, and that he would
" abſolutely have refuſed a lack of rupees intended for him by the nabob, as ſpecified in the above-
" mentioned general account of Mahomed Reza Cawn, had it been ever tendered to him."

" That upon the whole, the gentlemen who ſat at the board, as well as thoſe who negociated at
" the durbar, were guilty of actual diſobedience to the Company's poſitive orders relative to the co-
" venants, both in delaying to execute them, and in receiving preſents contrary to the expreſs letter
" and ſpirit of theſe obligations: yet to avoid every appearance of exerting with rigour the powers
" wherewith they are intruſted, or of being actuated by any other motives than thoſe of honour
" and a firm attachment to the intereſt of their employers,

" Reſolved, That the ſelect committee leave to the honourable Court of Directors to paſs final
" judgment; and refer to their minutes entered in conſultation of the 23d inſtant for a juſtification
" of their proceedings."

And your Committee find ſome ſubſequent proceedings were held before the ſelect committee upon the ſubject of theſe preſents, viz. on the 4th of July, when another letter or narrative of Mahomed Reza Cawn, tranſmitted by Lord Clive, who was then at Mootejil, was received; and the members preſent, viz. Meſſieurs Sumner, Verelſt, and Sykes, thereupon came to the following reſolutions.

" That Mahomed Reza Cawn has in this letter related facts with great candour and preciſion,
" confirming, in the ſtrongeſt manner, the ſeveral particulars ſet forth in his former evidence.

" That he poſitively aſſerts, and with the greateſt appearance of truth, that neither the pre-
" ſents from the nabob, nor from himſelf, were voluntary, but granted after ſome altercation
" and tedious negociations with the gentlemen of the deputation.

" That Mr. Johnſtone at firſt deſired a very large ſum, but after a great deal of debate, and ma-
" ny conferences, Mooteram conſented to accept 6,25,000 rupees, from the nabob, and 4,75,000
" rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn; of which ſums the whole has been paid by the nabob, and
" 2,25,000 by Mahomed Reza Cawn, in money and bills.

" That, over and above 1,37,500 rupees, which Mr. Johnſtone obtained from the nabob, as
" a joint member and ſenior ſervant on the deputation, the ſame gentleman ſtipulated, That
" 100,000 rupees for himſelf, and 50,000 rupees for his brother, ſhould be paid ſecretly from
" all the other gentlemen.

" That, beſides the above ſums clandeſtinely obtained from the nabob, Mr. Johnſtone, as
" principal agent and manager, thought proper, without the conſent or knowledge of his col-
" legues, likewiſe to appropriate 50,000 rupees to himſelf, and 25,000 to his brother, out of
" the money granted by Mahomed Reza Cawn, over and above his allowed proportion as a
" Member of the deputation.

" And, laſtly, the committee agree,

" That Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter be entered on the face of their proceedings, as unde-
" niable teſtimony to all whom it may concern, of the neceſſity of their inquiries, the impar-
" tiality of their proceedings, and the great lenity of their reſolution, in ſubmitting final judg-
" ment to the Court of Directors, notwithſtanding their conduct has been bitterly cenſured,
" their powers arraigned, their characters aſperſed, and their authority, ſufficient to enable them
" to proceed, and juſtify them in proceeding, to the laſt extremity."

And your Committee, before they enter upon the parole evidence relative to this ſubject, think it proper to ſtate to the Houſe, That Mooteram, phouſdar of Hooghly, and Buſſantroy his ſervant, mentioned above, were under confinement at the time of their examination.—And in regard to the perſons accuſed, your Committee find, That the proceedings of the ſelect committee were laid before the council, where the perſons concerned had an opportunity of examining the charges, and giving in their anſwers, which they ſeverally did in their minutes annexed, No. 85; and that by the deſire of the members of the ſelect committee at the board, the 17th of June, Mooteram was before the council, on the 18th of June, as appears in the Appendix, 85. But it does not appear that any of them were preſent, or had been confronted with their accuſers, or heard in their defence, at the time the reſolution of the 1ſt of June paſſed. Neither does it appear, that Mahomed Reza Cawn was ever ſworn to the truth of his different narratives, nor examined in perſon before the committee; nor that Juggut Seet was ſworn to the truth of his narratives; nor do your Committee find, that the perſons concerned in this laſt narrative were made acquainted

with

with the matter contained therein, at the time the committee came to the reſolution of the 4th of July ſtated above.

And your Committee find, That, in conſequence of the proceedings of the ſelect committee upon this ſubject, a report was made to the Court of Directors, in a letter dated the 30th of September 1765, (a copy of which letter is annexed, No. 86) and, in order to elucidate the proceedings and the repreſentation thereof, as ſtated in that letter, your Committee examined William Brightwell Sumner, Eſquire, who being aſked, What was his opinion reſpecting the truth of the information delivered by the nabob touching the preſents received by the deputation and the council in 1765? ſaid, That with reſpect to the preſents received by the deputation, and governor and council, on the acceſſion of Nudjum ul Dowlah to the government in 1765, the firſt information on the ſubject, as well as the ſeveral evidences exhibited, came before him officially, and that the repreſentations thereof to the Court of Directors were made officially.—That under the variety of contradictory evidence that appeared before the committee, however difficult it might be for him to determine, he found himſelf diſpoſed to confine the cenſure wholly to that part of the gentlemen's conduct which related to their not having ſubſcribed the covenants ſent out by the Company, and which, as members of the adminiſtration, he thought it incumbent on them to have executed, or to have reſigned the ſervice; and that in his private correſpondence with his particular friends in the direction, he confined his cenſure entirely to that part of their conduct—that when he was appointed again to the Company's ſervice in 1764, he readily acquieſced to ſigning the covenants himſelf; but that a few days after, when he found that the Court of Directors intended to exclude their ſervants wholly from the benefits of the inland trade, which, when he ſigned the covenants, he clearly underſtood they were to be indulged in, and conſidering it as a new term of ſervice, he declared to his friends in the direction, that he would reſign his appointment, and that it was his fixed reſolution ſo to have done, if that new condition had not been revoked by a reſolution of the general court, the reſult of which was, that the regulations for carrying on the inland trade was referred wholly to the governor and council—that, however warm their repreſentations officially to the Court of Directors may have been, he acknowleged the circumſtances do not now by any means appear to him in the ſame light they then did—that a cooler examination into the matter, and a more intimate knowledge of ſome of the parties, together with informations he had ſince received, had made him materially alter his ſentiments of thoſe tranſactions; and that he had not a doubt of the preſents being freely and voluntarily given on the part of the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn.—Being aſked, if he had ever, and at what time, been of opinion, that the preſents were not freely and voluntarily given? he ſaid, He had his doubts at the time of the examination into that matter. And being aſked, Whether the letters he wrote to his friends in the direction were written at the time he had received ſatisfaction of the preſents being freely made? he ſaid, they were—that he was then in office, but did not acquaint the other gentlemen in office with that change in his ſentiments, nor the Court of Directors, to whom he could not communicated his opinion in his capacity as an individual; but that he mentioned it in his private letters to Sir George Amyand and Mr. Scrafton, two of the then directors—And being aſked, What were the particular grounds of his change of ſentiment? he ſaid, A variety of information that he had received from different perſons, but in particular Mr. Leyceſter's return of the 50,000 rupees to Mahomed Reza Cawn, in which, at firſt, from the evidence, there appeared ſome difficulty with regard to time, but that it was afterwards fully ſtated to his conviction.—Being aſked, Whether at the time of ſubſcribing the letter from the ſelect committee at Bengal to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th of September 1765, he entertained any doubts whether the preſents were freely and voluntarily made? he ſaid, That the different information he had received from the time of the examination to the time of his ſubſcribing that letter, had fully convinced him that the preſents from the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn to the gentlemen of the deputation, and the members of the council, were freely and voluntarily given.—And being queſtioned, he ſaid, There was not any deceit or unfair practice made uſe of to induce him to ſign that letter.—And being aſked, Whether he thought the Court of Directors, at the time they wrote their letter to the ſelect committee, dated the 17th May 1766, were convinced that the ſaid preſents were not freely and voluntarily made? he ſaid, He did.—Being aſked, Whether the ſelect committee received any, and what, inſtructions from the Court of Directors relative to the preſents from Coſſim Ally Cawn to the Company's ſervants in 1760? he ſaid, The Court of Directors did tranſmit ſome inſtructions on that ſubject while he was an acting member of the committee; that he could not recollect the preciſe purport, but believed they directed an inquiry.—And being aſked, Whether, upon the receipt of thoſe inſtructions he diſcloſed to the ſelect committee the preſents he had himſelf received at that period? he replied, That the inſtructions to the beſt of his recollection were received by the committee early in Auguſt 1766, when his ſtate of health was ſuch as rendered him utterly incapable of attending to any public buſineſs from about the day of the receipt of that letter to the 23d of Auguſt; and that he did not attend the committee above once or twice from the 23d of Auguſt to the 28th of November, the day on which he reſigned the ſervice, being incapable of attending at all.—And being aſked, he ſaid the public letter of the 30th of September 1765 was drawn up by Mr. Campbell, ſecretary to the

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ſelect committee, and read to the committee at the time of their ſigning it—that he was at that time ſenſible that ſome parts of it were contrary to the ſentiments he had expreſſed in his private letters to his friends, of nearly the ſame date—that he had received ſufficient conviction for himſelf, but had not before him the full proof of thoſe matters which he thought would have been likely to operate to the conviction of the other gentlemen of the ſelect committee; that he foreſaw, after the concluſion they had come to at the time the examination was before them, and from the records of which thoſe repreſentations were made, that an attempt to alter the ideas which were adopted would involve him in endleſs altercations, without producing any good; and that he conſidered that he was doing as much juſtice to the gentlemen themſelves by his private repreſentations to his particular friends in the direction, as he could have done by any diſſent he could have made on the ſpot, which probably would not have in the leaſt altered the public repreſentations, and might have ſubjected himſelf to many diſagreeable conſequences—that there are many points and ſituations in the public affairs, wherein a man muſt yield a part of his own judgment to the prevailing influence, and in order to preſerve unanimity, which diſpoſition influenced the conduct he had obſerved on this occaſion. And being aſked, What he meant by prevailing influence at that time? he ſaid, A great majority in the committee.—Being aſked, If he thought himſelf authorized to ſubſcribe in his official capacity opinions not his own? he anſwered, That it was the conſtant practice of the ſervice, with the exception of entering diſſents upon the proceedings—the reaſon he did not enter his diſſent is given in the preceding anſwer: he further ſaid, That it was the expreſs order of the Court of Directors, that every man ſhould ſign all public letters, entering his diſſent, if they thought proper, to any part they diſapproved.—And being further aſked, If he had ever ventured to enter a diſſent upon the public proceedings? he ſaid, He had upon two or three occaſions; and particularly the paragraph of the next letter from the ſelect committee, dated the 31ſt of January 1766; and that paragraphs 21 and 22 would ſhew the cenſure he received.—Being aſked, Whether he thought Mahomed Reza Cawn's being appointed prime miniſter could be agreeable to the nabob?—He ſaid, It certainly could not; but that if the appointment of him was improper, or the nabob placed in a ſituation too much under his influence, it was in the power of Lord Clive and the ſelect committee to have diſplaced him, and to have given the nabob what degree of authority they thought proper: the witneſs conſidered his appointment proper, and the degree of power given to him neceſſary.—That Lord Clive and the committee eſteemed his conduct irreproachable during his ſhort adminiſtration, and that he was confirmed by them in his office, with ſome diminution of power, by the aſſociation of Juggut Seet and Roy Dullub.—And being aſked, Where Nudjum ul Dowlah, in the treaty with Lord Clive, the 30th of September 1765, expreſſes his perfect reliance on Mahomed Reza Cawn, if he thought the nabob was any more ſatisfied by Mahomed Reza Cawn's appointment under that treaty, than under the treaty made by the deputies the May preceding?—he ſaid, He believed both were equally diſagreeable to him: that the appointment of Nundcomar was the moſt earneſt wiſh the nabob had at all times: he diſbelieved that part of the evidence of Mahomed Reza Cawn to the ſelect committee, reſpecting the preſents to the gentlemen of the deputation.—He ſaid that he apprehended he gave them voluntarily, having apologized to Mr. Cartier by an expreſs declaration for the conduct he had obſerved on that examination in giving falſe evidence, from which the witneſs believed he accommodated his evidence to the times.—That the evidence with reſpect to Juggut Seet remained unanſwered; and that from the evidence of Mooteram there ſtill appears ſome indelicacy in the negociation in that point: that Mahomed Reza Cawn's declaration was made about June or July, and previous to the ſending away the public letter, being himſelf acquainted with it at that time.

And Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire, being examined in regard to that part of the foregoing evidence, wherein mention is made of a letter from Mr. Cartier; and being queſtioned, Whether he had any letter from Mr. Cartier, informing him that Mahomed Reza Cawn had apologized to him for having given falſe evidence to the ſelect committee, concerning the preſents received by the gentlemen of the deputation at the acceſſion of Nudjum ul Dowlah: he ſaid, He was extremely ſorry to find that any private letter to him had been mentioned to the Committee, as he eſteemed the production of private letters, without the conſent of the writers, to be very improper; and he declared it was totally without his concurrence.—That he received various letters from Mr. Cartier on the ſubject of preſents, on the conduct of the ſelect committee, and Mahomed Reza Cawn; but that with regard to the letter referred to by Mr. Sumner, he could not venture to aſſert the receipt of one in the terms mentioned by Mr. Sumner; and that he could not ſay he believed he ever did receive a letter from Mr. Cartier to that purpoſe.

Your Committee then examined Harry Verelſt, Eſquire, who being aſked, If any quorum was preſcribed for the ſelect committee? ſaid, That the uſual quorum was three; but that the ſelect committee did not lay down any rules for themſelves. Your Committee then read the ſelect committee proceedings of the 21ſt of December, 1766; on which day the 1 and 1-8th per Cent was continued to Lord Clive till the September following his leaving the Government, and the unappropriated ſhare of the ſalt trade was aſſigned to Mr. Harry Verelſt.

And your Committee found, That only two members were preſent on that occaſion; viz. Lord Clive, and Mr. Verelſt; but that General Carnac deſired his name to be added.—And your

Committee alſo found, That on the 10th of Auguſt when the ſalt ſociety was eſtabliſhed, there were only two members preſent; viz. Meſſrs. Summer, and Verelſt.—And Mr. Verelſt being asked, If it was uſual for the committee to proceed without more than two members being preſent?—he ſaid, It was not; but that it was cuſtomary for every member who was upon the ſpot to attend.—And being asked, Whether Mr. Summer, who was preſident at the ſelect committee on the 4th of July 1765, ever ſuggeſted to him, or any other member of that committee, that he believed the preſents before mentioned were freely and voluntarily made?—he ſaid, He never did:—That the committee were unanimouſly of opinion to the contrary:—That he never heard Mr. Sumner intimate the leaſt doubt of the veracity of Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, or what he alledged in the letter read at that committee, during his ſtay in India, nor ſince, till the ſecond day before the time of this preſent examination:—That the witneſs never had any cauſe, either then or ſince, to ſuſpect the veracity of Mahomed Reza Cawn's evidence, or that of the other witneſſes all of whom were deſired by the committee to conſider with the utmoſt caution every matter, and to be careful to adhere ſtrictly to the truth, without any exaggeration.—Being asked, Whether he thought that if Buſſant Roy, and Mooteram, who were two of the witneſſes examined by the committee, had not been put under a guard, they would have endeavoured to eſcape or abſcond; and whether it is the cuſtom in India to place guards or peons over perſons wanted to be examined, if there is a probability of their abſconding? he ſaid, It was always uſual ſo to do; they having none but armed men to employ on all thoſe occaſions:—That without that reſtraint, Buſſant Roy and Mooteram very poſſibly might have attempted to have made their eſcape, becauſe they might have had ſome intimation of the matter about which they were to be examined, and might think themſelves liable to the cenſure of the committee for having been employed in obtaining the preſents: that, in his opinion, no riſque of cenſure they might apprehend themſelves to be in, would induce them to give a partial evidence:—That they confeſſed all that they could apprehend being charged with, which he attributed to the natural averſion of the Hindoos to examinations upon oath, and which they would on all occaſions willingly avoid:—That their evidence againſt the gentlemen who had received preſents did not in any ſhape exculpate themſelves; and that the oaths of the Hindoos are held as ſacred by them as the oaths of any other people whatever. Being asked, Whether he credited the nabob's repreſentation of the 1ſt of June, alleging that Mahomed Reza Cawn had diſtributed the money without his knowledge? he ſaid, That it appeared in June before the date of the nabob's letter, that the nabob had given him an order under his hand, or hand and ſeal, for diſtributing the money:—That in this inſtance he deemed the nabob wrong in his repreſentation, and could eaſily account for it, by attributing to Nundcomar the drawing up of that letter for his highneſs: That he had no poſitive proof of it, but was led to think ſo by Nundcomar's being generally about the nabob's perſon, and employed in his private concerns.—And being asked, Whether he thought the preſents from Mahomed Reza Cawn, and the nabob, were obtained from them againſt their conſent?—he ſaid, he muſt declare, as an honeſt man, that he believed they were:—And being asked, Why he joined in recommending Mr. Middleton, who had received a part of thoſe preſents, as a fit perſon to be continued in the Eaſt India Company's ſervice: He ſaid he did it from a long knowledge of him, and a thorough good opinion of his principles? And being asked, he ſaid, Mr. Middleton is the next in ſucceſſion to the government of Bengal at this time? and that he blamed him very much for taking any ſhare of thoſe preſents; but that after his being thoroughly convinced of the impropriety of his conduct in that affair, and having offered to give ſecurity for the repayment of the money, in caſe the law determined the matter againſt him, and its being the only fault he ever knew him guilty of, he did eſteem him a proper ſervant for the Company: and he farther ſaid, that the whole matter relating to the preſents was communicated to the council board before the committee wrote their letter to the Court of Directors: and being asked, If he thought Mr. Middleton was capable of making a declaration under his hand to the ſelect committee, that was not ſtrictly true? he ſaid, No; nor does he recollect any circumſtance relating to Mr. Middleton which led him to believe ſo; and the letter from Mr. Middleton to the ſelect committee, 18 June 1765, and the reſolution thereupon, being read, the witneſs ſaid, He believed the contents of that letter were ſtrictly true:—And being aſked, Whether he communicated Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter, or any part of it, before the committee came to the reſolutions on the 4th of July? he ſaid, Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter of the 23d of June is entered on the committee proceedings the 4th of July following, where the reſolutions of the committee ſtand recorded; and he therefore ſuppoſed that the letter was not communicated to the gentlemen of the board prior to thoſe reſolutions; and the oath by which the committee were bound not to communicate their proceedings to any body till they had been laid before the council, being read, he ſaid, He remembered an alteration in that oath, and to the beſt of his recollection the diſtinction was, that according to the oath, as it firſt ſtood, ſecrecy was to be kept till the proceedings were laid before the board; and that in the additional clauſe the words were, "Or with the approbation of the committee," and that as he believed the alteration in the oath was made at the beginning of his government in 1767:—And being aſked, If Nundcomar was diſſatisfied with the treaty concluded by the deputies? he ſaid, He did not know:—And being aſked, If the nabob was diſſatisfied with the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn? he replied, He could not ſay:—And being

being aſked, If Nundcomar was the miniſter before the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn, he ſaid, He could not tell; that he was in a diſtant country, and had no correſpondence with the court:—And being aſked, who Nundcomar was? he ſaid, He is a Gentoo; that he knew nothing of him except ſeeing him with the nabobs; that he could not delineate who or what he is; that he knew nothing of his riſe in life; that he was generally employed by, and attending on the nabobs:—And being aſked, If his character was good or bad? he ſaid, He had heard various opinions reſpecting his character, but could not pretend to ſay what might be the general opinion:—And being aſked, Who was Buſſant Roy? he ſaid, He thought it appeared on the records, that he was one employed by Mooteram, who was nominated to the fouſdary of Hooghly:—And being aſked, If Mooteram was connected with any of the gentlemen in the deputation? he ſaid, From the information the committee received, it appeared to them he was an agent of Mr. Johnſtone.

Your Committee examined General Carnac, who ſaid that Mr. Sumner having expreſſed a difference of opinion from what appears to be his on the ſelect committee proceedings, reſpecting the preſents made on the acceſſion of Nudjum ul Dowlah; he thought it incumbent on every member of that committee to ſtate the grounds of his opinion, and expreſſed his ſatisfaction at being able to produce teſtimony what were his ſentiments long before the meeting of that committee, as to the meaſure to be purſued on the death of Myr Jaffier; in confirmation of which he referred your Committee to certain letters and papers relative to that matter; which being read, he further ſaid, that knowing the arrangement of the miniſters, as made by the gentlemen in the deputation to be wholly repugnant to the young nabob's wiſhes, and that he could not but be highly diſſatisfied with having a regent ſet over him, who had the whole executive power, under the odious appellation of naib ſubah, and that the perſon appointed to that office was particularly obnoxious to him, it was impoſſible he ſhould think that Nudjum ul Dowlah would make, with a good will, preſents to thoſe who were the inſtruments of ſuch an appointment: that as to Mahomed Reza Cawn, there was no reaſon for his being diſpleaſed:—That his ambition muſt have been highly gratified by the exaltation to ſo eminent a poſt.—That the Seets were not in the mode of making preſents, neither was there any inſtance, as the witneſs remembered, of their having made any before this period; and that they were not deſirous of holding offices under the government, which would rather have been an hindrance to their principal occupation as bankers.—And being asked, Why the naib ſubah was odious to the young nabob? he ſaid, The appointment of a naib ſubah, which implies the perſon in whom the whole executive power is lodged, carries with it an idea that the prince under whom he is appointed, is incapable of governing; and that the gentlemen who effected the revolution in 1760, in favour of Myr Coſſim, have aſſerted that nothing was originally intended except appointing him naib ſubah.—And being asked, If the confirmation of Mahomed Reza Cawn in his office was not as odious to the nabob in his firſt appointment? he ſaid, He was certain that the having Mahomed Reza Cawn as his miniſter in any ſhape, was diſagreeable to him; but that the thing being once done it would not perhaps have been ſo adviſeable to have made any material change therein:—That the appointment was certainly rendered leſs diſagreeable to the nabob by changing the appellation of naib ſubah, which was particularly odious:—That his main objection to the proceedings of the gentlemen who formed the treaty, was their forcing miniſters upon the nabob, who had been exceedingly obnoxious to the deceaſed nabob, and were equally ſo to the young one, his ſon: And he further ſaid, That he objected to the article which gave a power to Mahomed Reza Cawn, that in his opinion ought to have been withheld:—That he approved of the article in the treaty which eſtabliſhed the ſucceſſion; but did not think the deputation was neceſſary; for that Nudjum ul Dowlah having been appointed chuta nabob, he was of courſe in the regular form of ſucceſſion, and became nabob on his father's death; always ſuppoſing that he would receive confirmation of the ſame from the king. Then the 5th ſection of the letter from the ſelect committe to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765, being read to him, and being asked, Whether he meant thereby to impute any blame to the gentlemen of the deputation, and the governor and council, for having raiſed the natural ſon of the deceaſed nabob to the ſubahdarree, in prejudice to the claim of his grandſon? he ſaid, He had before given his opinion on that ſubject; and that he did not mean to be underſtood, that by putting his name to that letter he agreed to every individual article contained in it, but that he ſubſcribed his aſſent to the general tenor of it:—That it was his duty to have ſigned it, entering a diſſent if there had been any parts ſo materially contrary to his ſentiments as to have rendered it neceſſary:—That to his knowledge Roy Dullub was very much diſliked by the nabob; and that the Seets who were by no means ambitious men, would gladly have diſpenſed with the ſhare in the government that was given them. And being asked, Whether the arrangement made by the preſident and council, before the arrival of Lord Clive, prevented his lordſhip and the ſelect committee from making any arrangements they thought proper? he ſaid, That the ſucceſſion, as ſettled by the deputation, being once eſtabliſhed, could not have been ſet aſide without the appearance of a revolution.—Then being asked, How he reconciled the aſſertion in the letter, that not a ſingle rupee was ſtipulated for the Company, with the acknowledgment he had before made, that five lacks per month were ſtipulated for the Company? he ſaid, That his idea therein referred merely to the ſolicitations for preſents from the nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn, and Juggut Seet, for the individuals of the council without any conſideration to

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the Company, who, if preſents were to be ſolicited, had a better right to them; but that he did not think the Company had any title to more than they got.—And being aſked, If the Company got all they were intitled to, wherein their intereſt had been ſacrificed?—he ſaid, By the neglect of an opportunity that might have offered, if the majority of the committee had judged it prudent and adviſeable to adopt a different mode of ſucceſſion.—Then the 8th paragraph of the ſaid letter being read, and the witneſs being asked, If he knew of any money being received on the acceſſion of Nudjum ul Dowlah, from oppoſite parties and contending intereſts? (which are words uſed in the ſaid paragraph) he ſaid, He underſtood that Nundcomar as well as Roy Dulluh had been offering teeps on all quarters, to ſecure to themſelves the principal ſhare of the miniſtry; but that he did not know that they were received, or that any promiſe was made them that they ſhould have the place aſſigned to Mahomed Reza Cawn.—And being queſtioned, Whether he thought they were received?—he anſwered, He did not; that he believed he could produce ſeveral letters of the gentlemen concerned, acknowledging the offers.—And being asked, Whether, at the time of ſigning the general letter, he thought the evidence he had heard, relative to ſeveral lacks of rupees procured from Nundcomar and Roy Dullub, juſtified the ſtate of that fact, as drawn up in the general letter?—he ſaid, He thought there muſt have been ſome foundation for what appears to have been ſo ſtrongly aſſerted; and that in regard to the laſt paragraph of the ſaid letter, there was a liſt given in by Nundcomar, which he ſaw, and to the beſt of his belief it was written both in Engliſh and Perſian; and he does not know that Nundcomar was brought before the Committee and examined reſpecting that liſt.—And being asked, What was the character of Shah Aalum? he ſaid, He was a man of middling underſtanding, owing to his confinement, which deprived him of any great opportunity of improving himſelf, but that he believed him to have been rather a good man than otherwiſe.—And being asked, Why he ſaid, in the letter from Lord Clive and himſelf to the ſelect committee, entered on the ſelect conſultations, 12 Auguſt 1766, That it was not for the Company's intereſt or honour to maintain any connection with a man of ſo weak an underſtanding, and ſo very deficient in every principle of honor? he again ſaid, That it does not neceſſarily follow, from his ſubſcribing to any letter, that he aſſented to every individual article of it; that there never would be any letters ſent, if all the parties to it were to be unanimous with reſpect to the whole.

Your Committee then called Francis Sykes, Eſquire, who being aſked who drew up the letter from the ſelect committee to the Court of Directors, dated 30th of September 1765, ſaid, That it was drawn up by Mr. Campbell the ſecretary, and that he, the witneſs, neither drew up or altered any part of it: and being aſked, What part of the political conduct of the governor and council of Bengal he meant to find fault, in the ſecond paragraph of the above letter? he concurred with General Carnac in diſapproving the appointment of Mahomed Reza Cawn with ſuch extenſive powers; and added, that he blamed the gentlemen who ſettled the treaty with Nudjum ul Dowlah, for omitting the opportunity they then had of conſtituting a fund adequate to the expences the company were obliged to be at in protecting the country.—That the revenues were left too much at the mercy of individuals, and he thought the natural effect of thoſe arrangements would be to put the nabob in ſuch a ſituation as to enable him to withold the neceſſary payment to the army, which whenever he did pay, it was with reluctance.—That he diſapproved of making the concurrence and approbation of the governor and council neceſſary to the appointment and diſmiſſion of the nabob's officers, and objected to the appointment of Nudjum ul Dowlah to the muſnud, in preference to Myr Jaffier's grandſon, particularly as the grandſon had been declared the legal heir and chuta nabob in the public durbar, by Myr Jaffier, in the preſence of the witneſs, in the year 1760, ſoon after the death of the nabob Myr Jaffier's ſon, Meeran; which tranſaction he ſaid muſt appear upon the Company's records.—That there were 4 or 500 officers of the government preſent at the ceremony, and that he received a dreſs on the occaſion.—And being aſked what fact he could mention to ſhew that the gentlemen of the deputation received conſiderable ſums from Nundcomar and Roy Dullub, to appoint them to the employment intended to be beſtowed on Mahomed Reza Cawn, as ſtated in the 8th paragraph of the letter from the ſelect committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765? he ſaid, He could not recollect the particulars of that affair; but that Roy Dullub did complain that a teep or teeps were procured from him, beſides which, he complained of Mr. Burdett in particular, and deſired to have his teep returned, which he believes was refuſed; and believes other complaints were made.—And being aſked if he knows of any promiſe made either by the governor and council, or the deputation, to Nundcomar or Roy Dullub, that they ſhould be appointed to the place which had been promiſed Mahomed Reza Cawn? ſaid, He did not recollect any one fact that a promiſe was made, but it appeared to him at the time they were both ſtruggling for the appointment.—And being aſked, Whether, at the time of ſigning the general letter on the 1ſt of October, he had any poſitive proof of the facts he aſſerted therein, and did not now recollect, relative to the preſents from Nundcomar and Roy Dullub? he ſaid, He does not recollect, but dares to ſay that at the time of ſigning it facts did appear, ſufficient to ground the paragraph upon. He did not recollect that the particulars relating to it were ever recorded, and he did not acquaint any of the gentlemen accuſed with theſe circumſtances:—And being aſked, What was his opinion reſpecting the facts aſſerted in the nabob's letter to the governor and council of 1ſt June 1765?

1765? he ſaid, That with reſpect to the money which he complains to have been taken, which appears upon the Company's records, he believes the fact to be true. The following paragraph in the nabob's letter being read, viz. "After this, Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived and fat as Naib; "he for the better eſtabliſhing himſelf in the Naibſhip, above twenty lacks of rupees has diſtri- "buted among ſuch people as he thought proper, without my knowledge"—And the witneſs being aſked if he believed it to be true? he ſaid, As to the fact of that paragraph, he could not depend upon it.—And being aſked, If that paragraph had been true, reſpecting the twenty lacks of rupees taken by Mahomed Reza Cawn from the nabob's treaſury, without his knowledge, he ſhould have thought him proper, though irreproachable towards the Company, to have continued miniſter for the Company in the receipt of the Dewannee? he ſaid, He had no idea that they were taken without his knowledge; that they were taken contrary to his free will and pleaſure, the witneſs did believe; but as his conduct appeared to him irreproachable, with reſpect to any act in which he was concerned relative to the Company, he ſhould have continued him in his office: That that part of the nabob's letter complaining of his poverty, and aſſerting that he had not money enough to pay his expences down to Calcutta, was not true; for that he knew that he had at this period twenty lacks of rupees at Calcutta, by the report of his own cashier:—And being aſked, he ſaid, He thought that the nabob's letter was dictated by Nundcomar:—And being aſked, If, when he ſigned the letter from the ſelect committee to the Court of Directors, on the 30th of September 1765, he believed that the preſents mentioned in that letter were freely and voluntarily given? he ſaid, That thoſe from the nabob never were given with his free will and conſent; that thoſe given by Mahomed Reza Cawn certainly were, for he told him ſo; and that thoſe given by Juggut Seet were given under the ſame circumſtances as the nabob's:—And being aſked, Whether any charge was given to the witneſſes examined by the ſelect committee on the nabob's complaint?—he ſaid, That the charge, to the beſt of his remembrance, was this—when the matter of the nabob's complaint came before Lord Clive and the ſelect committee, his Lordſhip deſired the witneſſes would not attend to any intereſt whatever, diveſt themſelves of all party and faction, and give to the ſelect committee the whole truth and nothing more:—And being aſked, Whether Mahomed Reza Cawn was examined, or brought in a written narrative ready tranſlated to the Committee? he ſaid, He was queſtioned by Lord Clive and ſeveral members of the Committee, upon a viſit a day or two previous to his being brought into the Committee; but he believes without any thing being put upon paper:—That at that meeting the ſame charge, with reſpect to ſpeaking the truth was given to him as was always given to all the other witneſſes:—That upon the nabob's letter of complaint, Lord Clive expreſſed great uneaſineſs at ſeeing the nabob ſo much diſpleaſed; and mentioned, as the witneſs thought, to Mahomed Reza Cawn, that in conſequence of the nabob's determined reſolution to obtain juſtice, he could not, conſiſtent with his duty, avoid enquiring into it, and laying it before the ſelect committee; that his lordſhip hoped, when that matter came to take place, that thoſe who were particularly concerned would do juſtice to all parties:—That there was no regular meeting nor any examination then, or except when there were regular meetings of the committee:—That in conſequence of Mahomed Reza Cawn having ideas, that he ſhould be called upon to anſwer for his conduct in this particular affair, he drew up a narrative and brought it to the committee, which narrative the witneſs believed was drawn up between that meeting and the day that he was examined at the committee, and tranſlated by a black man hired for that purpoſe:—And being aſked, If Mahomed Reza Cawn was ſworn at his examination?—he ſaid, That he did not recollect:—And being aſked, If Juggut Seet was ſworn?—he ſaid, He believed not—that when he was examined, Lord Clive deſired him to be attentive to adhere to the truth; and he ſaid with warmth in anſwer, that he had put his ſeal, and that that would go for a crore of rupees:—And being aſked, If Mr. Sumner ever publicly or privately informed him, that he had changed that opinion relating to the preſents which he had given upon record?—he ſaid, Never till the day before his examination before this Committee.—Then the laſt paragraph of the ſupplement of the letter from the ſelect committee to the Court of Directors, the 30th of September 1765, being read, and the witneſs being aſked, What were the circumſtances relative to the information therein contained?—he ſaid, That the fact, as it appeared to him was, that Nundcomar did make ſuch a repreſentation to the governor and ſelect committee, juſt before the departure of the Admiral Stevens; and that a liſt was delivered in, ſpecifying the different ſums the gentlemen were ſuppoſed to have been benefited—that the buſineſs of the ſettlement taking up the attention of the ſelect committee, he underſtood prevented any immediate inquiry into the charge laid by Nundcomar:—That the report ſtill prevailing, and many gentlemen giving credit to it, and the witneſs going to the city in the month of March 1766, he did aſk Mahomed Reza Cawn, and other officers belonging to the nabob's treaſury, queſtions relative to this tranſaction; and though Nundcomar did inſiſt to the very laſt, that it was a fact, the witneſs ſaid, He verily believed, from every light and intelligence he could gain, that the whole of the accuſation contained in that paragraph was baſe and falſe.—And being aſked, If the diſbelief of that accuſation was made known to the Court of Directors? he ſaid, He did not know that it was.—And being aſked, If it was cuſtomary for the gentlemen of the ſelect committee to ſign letters as the ſecretary drew them up,

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without examination of each particular paragraph, and conviction that they were juſt in every part? he ſaid, That all letters ſigned by the ſelect committee were always produced to them by the ſecretary, were read to them, and if there was nothing material to cauſe a diſſent, there was an acquieſcence to the majority. The witneſs further added, with reſpect to the preſents given by Mahomed Reza Cawn, as a further reaſon why they were voluntarily given, That the gentlemen, to whom the preſents were made, had raiſed him to the utmoſt pitch of his ambition, and that he told the witneſs he had given the preſents with his own free will.—That, to the beſt of the witneſs's recollection, this was ſaid by Mahomed Reza Cawn to him in common converſation, about a year after the event; that he never had had any converſation with Lord Clive, or any other gentleman of the committee, upon that ſubject, from that time to this. And being aſked, Whether he had given an opinion on the 4th of July 1765, in conſequence of Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter of the 23d of June, That he had aſſerted, with the greateſt appearance of truth, that neither the preſents from the nabob himſelf were voluntary, but granted after ſome altercation and tedious negociations with the gentlemen of the deputation, and which opinion had been tranſmitted to the Court of Directors, he did not think it his duty to have acquainted them likewiſe with the above confeſſion? he ſaid, That when he ſigned that opinion, it appeared to him that the aſſertions therein contained were true; and that the converſation which paſſed between him and Mahomed Reza Cawn, wherein he contradicted thoſe aſſertions, being at a long time after the tranſaction had taken place, it never occurred to him to give information of it to the Court of Directors. And being aſked, Whether, when he diſcovered the baſeneſs and falſity of Nundcomar's repreſentation, as mentioned in the laſt paragraph of the ſupplement of the letter of the 30th of September 1765, he acquainted Lord Clive, and the other gentlemen of the Committee, with his diſcovery? he ſaid, He was certain he did mention his ideas on that matter to the gentlemen of the Committee, as well as many others—that he did not make the above diſcovery till March or April 1766; and that he did not know, that the ſelect committee ever acquainted the Court of Directors with it, it being a matter he was only deſirous of knowing for his own information, to invalidate private aſſertions at Calcutta.—And being aſked, What diſtinction he found in favour of Mr. Middleton, to induce him to recommend that gentleman to the favour of the Court of Directors, and even to diſobey the orders of the Court to commence a proſecution againſt him, while he wrote ſo ſtrongly againſt the other members of the deputation? he ſaid, That Mr. Middleton was at a ſubordinate ſtation, and that the receipt of the covenants from their ſuperiors were unknown, or at leaſt had not been publicly tendered to him—that he deemed the gentlemen who reſided at Calcutta more culpable than Mr. Middleton, becauſe they were the agents for the Company, and it became their duty to put the covenants immediately into execution—that at the time of the deputies ſetting out, Mr. Senior was at a ſubordinate ſituation at Coſſimbuzar, and Mr. Johnſtone was reſident at Burdwan, but upon the nabob's death, was called to the ſeat at the board at Calcutta.—And being aſked, What diſtinction he made between Mr. Middleton and Mr. Senior, in their claims to the Company's favour? he ſaid, He had an opportunity of knowing the public conduct of Mr. Middleton, but not that of Mr. Senior—that the plea reſpecting the preſents allowed Mr. Middleton, equally favoured Mr. Senior; but that Mr. Middleton had declared himſelf ready to give ſecurity to anſwer any demands the Company might have upon him, which he did not underſtand that Mr. Senior did—that Mr. Leyceſter, upon being informed, that the preſents received from Juggut Seet were not with his free will and conſent, immediately returned his ſhare of it to him, and that on the tender of return being made, Juggut Seet applied to the witneſs at Muxadabad, to know what he ſhould do—that he told Juggut Seet, if the preſent was given with his free will and conſent, he ſhould allow Mr. Leyceſter to enjoy it, if not, that he ſhould receive it back; which he accordingly did, and asked the witneſs whether he ſuppoſed any other gentlemen would follow his example—And being asked, Whether, when he mentioned that Mahomed Reza Cawn ſaid he had given the preſents voluntarily, he underſtood that they were given unasked, or granted after ſome altercation and tedious negociation with the deputies? he ſaid, They were certainly asked for; and that if Mahomed Reza Cawn had not received the place of miniſter to the nabob in the room of Nundcomar, or ſome other appointment equal to his wiſh, he did not believe he would have made any preſents with his free will and conſent.

And to enable the Houſe to form further judgment upon the evidence given to the ſelect committee of Bengal, Robert Gregory, Eſquire, a member of your Committee, and converſant in the cuſtoms of India, was asked, From the natural diſpoſition of the natives of Bengal, what credit could be given to the evidence of an officer in the country government, when ſeized and ſurrounded by military guards? and he ſaid, He could give but very little credit to an evidence ſo given—that he apprehended a native of that country, examined under apprehenſions of his own ſafety, would give the evidence that would tend moſt to his own advantage. And he further informed your Committee, that if there is any thing criminal likely to come out againſt the man, and a place of refuge near at hand, he ſuppoſed there was a neceſſity in India of uſing a force to detain him, otherwiſe not—that in point of cuſtom of the country government, they generally

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uſed violence, and brought witneſſes to the place where they wanted to examine them; but that it had not been cuſtomary in our ſettlements.

And in regard to oaths among Gentoos, the witneſs ſaid he believed, under the form of oath delivered to the Gentoos, their teſtimony is to be depended upon as well as others, though there have been inſtances in which they have been found guilty of perjury; and that he does not know any inſtance of Gentoos having quitted their habitations upon their being called on as evidences, and that without their lives or effects were in danger, or their caſt taken from them, he did not apprehend they would.

And Major Grant, who had been reſident in India nearly ſeven years, being examined to the ſame point, confirmed the opinion of the foregoing witneſs, relative to the ſmall degree of credit to be given to natives of Bengal examined under a guard. And being aſked, Whether he would diſregard the evidence of the natives of that country, though given under the forms of oaths which are reckoned moſt binding, according to the different ſects? he ſaid, That under the circumſtances already mentioned of confinement, and the dread of conſequences, he ſhould not pay that regard to their evidence that he otherwiſe ſhould, unleſs there were other concurring teſtimonies to enforce it.—And being aſked, What regard has generally been given to the evidence of natives of all ſects, when called upon at a court martial to give evidence in caſes of life and death? he ſaid, he had never ſeen any inſtance of that kind before a court martial, but imagined the court would pay every deference to an evidence where it appeared there was no influence or intereſt in view; that he had never ſat on a court martial, though he had occaſionally attended the court in Calcutta, but never the trial out—was never preſent at any inſtance of a witneſs being examined under a military guard.

And your Committee find, by the proceedings on the trial of Ram Churn, which were read, that the moſt ſolemn manner of ſwearing witneſſes, according to the Gentoo religion, is with Tootſy and the Ganges water upon the cow's back, and the oath being adminiſtered by a bramin from Goligott.

And General Carnac being queſtioned to the ſame point, ſaid, It was cuſtomary, with reſpect to the natives of India, to place guards or peons over perſons who were to be examined; that there were no miniſters of public juſtice, but armed men; and he thought it neceſſary to place a guard over Mooteram, becauſe he was under accuſation: that in regard to oaths of Gentoos, he believed from their ſuperſtitious zeal, and their ſtrong attachment even to martyrdom to their antient rites, they are held very ſacred.

It appears further, from the evidence of Mr. Sumner, that Mooteram was examined under a guard, as the witneſs underſtood, by direction of Lord Clive, on an information he had received of his having the bills and money tranſactions, mentioned above, in his particular care; and that he was ſeized to prevent his eſcape.

In regard to the political tranſactions propoſed to be conſidered under the 4th head of the proceedings of the ſelect committee of Bengal, your Committee found, that on the 5th of June 1764 the ſelect committee taking into conſideration many attempts which have been made to deſtroy the unanimity, and corrupt the integrity of the members of the committee, both ſeparately and jointly, by the nabob, through the influence of Nundcomar, and other ill-diſpoſed perſons, who were admitted into his preſence, Reſolved, That all intercourſe with the nabob, his miniſters, and the country powers, be maintained and conducted by the right honourable the preſident, as the moſt effectual method to convince thoſe ill-diſpoſed perſons that no motives of private advantage, no deſire of encreaſing their fortunes, can ever ſeduce the members of that board from the duty they owed themſelves, the confidence they repoſed in each other, or the ſteady reſolution they had formed to purſue every method that tended to promote the Company's intereſt, and the peace, proſperity, and happineſs of the country.

And your Committee took occaſion, from what appeared upon the above reſolution, to call Francis Sykes, Eſquire, a member of the Houſe; who being deſired to ſtate to the Committee in what manner the nabob, through the influence of Nundcomar, had endeavoured to corrupt his integrity, and that of the other members of the ſelect committee, ſaid, That when he was ſitting at the board, ſoon after his arrival, he was called out by a ſervant to ſpeak to Nundcomar, who was in a room contiguous to the apartment where the committee ſat; that he of himſelf, propoſed to the witneſs, to ſecure to the governor and ſelect committee 25 lacks of rupees, if they were inclined to liſten to his terms, without mentioning what thoſe terms were; but the witneſs ſaid, he conjectured the conditions he meant were to ſupplant Mahomed Reza Cawn, the then prime miniſter:—That he told Nundcomar he had better go and mind his buſineſs, and immediately left him, to attend his duty in the committee:—That no body was preſent at this converſation:—That Nundcomar did not ſay whether it was to be his own money, or the nabob's, whoſe name, the witneſs believed, was not mentioned at all:—That on his return to the committee, he mentioned Nundcomar's propoſal to Lord Clive, who ſaid he was a raſcal, and had better go about his buſineſs:—That the witneſs never after, either directly or indirectly, knew any thing more about the matter;—That Nundcomar's political character was very bad, but

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that the witneſs ſaid that he had no doubt that if he had been made prime miniſter, he would have had it in his power to have fulfilled the propoſal.

And in the political tranſactions referred to under this head, your Committee mean to comprehend the concluſion of the war with Sujah Dowlah; the eſtabliſhment of the country government, after Lord Clive's arrival in India; the ſettling of the peace with Sujah Dowlah; the grant of the Dewannee, and of the four Northern Sircars, and the reverſion of Lord Clive's Jaghire to the Company, upon the expiration of his Lordſhip's term therein. And firſt, with reſpect to the concluſion of the war, your Committee refer to letters from General Carnac, the commander in chief of the army, by the laſt of which letters, dated the 26th and 27th of May, contained in No. 84, hereunto annexed, the former incloſing a copy of a letter from Sujah Dowlah to General Carnac, and the General's anſwer; by which the ſelect committee found that Sujah Dowlah, as his laſt reſource, had thrown himſelf on the generoſity of the Engliſh, and was at that time actually in camp, ready to receive ſuch terms of peace as they ſhould preſcribe; which appearing to the committee a favourable opportunity for eſtabliſhing the tranquility of the country on a permanent foundation, they reſolved that inſtructions ſhould be ſent to General Carnac for ſettling the preliminary articles with Sujah Dowlah, which they ſent accordingly:—That the ſelect committee, on the 21ſt of June, gave inſtructions to Lord Clive, as entered in the ſelect committee proceedings, copies of which are hereunto annexed; and the ſelect committee, on the ſame day, taking into conſideration the youth, inexperience, and incapacity of Nudjum ul Dowlah, the nabob of Bengal; the neceſſity of placing the adminiſtration in the hands of men capable to ſupport the weight of government, and attached to the Company's intereſt; and likewiſe the great danger that might ariſe to the ſtability of the then eſtabliſhment, from ſuffering the whole powers for the abſolute management of the three provinces to reſt in a ſingle perſon, reſolved that Mahomed Reza Cawn be adviſed to relinquiſh the title of naib ſubah, and alſo a part of the unbounded authority wherewith he was inveſted by the late treaty, as a meaſure not only agreeable to the nabob, but neceſſary to the ſafety of the preſent government and the future tranquility of the country: the further reaſons for this reſolution, and the appointment of other miniſters, appear in the ſelect committee proceedings of that day, a copy of which is annexed: and your Committee refer the Houſe to the Appendix, N° 84, wherein are contained the regulations of the three provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, in conformity to the above reſolutions.

That on the 7th of July the ſelect committee obſerving, by a letter from Lord Clive, dated the 3d inſtant, that their plan, formed with a view of giving ſtability to the nabob's government, by dividing the adminiſtration equally between Mahomed Reza Cawn, Juggut Seet, and Roy Dullub, was in danger of being ſubverted, through the ambition of the latter, and the exceſſive moderation or timidity of the former, they gave inſtructions to Mr. Sykes for the regulation of his conduct at the durbar, as appears in the proceedings of the ſelect committee, 7th July 1765, which are contained in N° 84 of the Appendix.

And your Committee find, by reading a letter from Lord Clive, dated Mootejil, 9 July, that the Nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn, Roy Dullub, and Juggut Seet, had at that time ſigned the abovementioned regulations for the three provinces, and that his lordſhip had obtained the ſunnud for the reverſion of his jaghire, in perpetuity to the Company, conformable to the terms of his agreement with them before he left England; which he forwarded to Mr. Sumner and the council, and at the ſame time mentioned, that ſunnuds for confirming the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah ſubah of the three provinces were to be obtained from the King, and that this would be a favourable opportunity for procuring ſunnuds for the freſh granted lands about Calcutta, and likewiſe for the Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong countries in perpetuity; and that he had been deſired by the preſident of Fort Saint George, to obtain ſunnuds for the four northern provinces or ſircars, which his lordſhip deeming a matter of great importance, determined to make a point of, obſerving at the ſame time, that as the nabob intended purchaſing the King's favours at the price of five lacks of rupees, his lordſhip did not doubt that all the ſunnuds required on the Company's account would be afforded gratis.—Your Committee find, by a letter from Lord Clive to the ſelect committee, dated Great Ganges 11th July 1765, hereunto annexed, N° 87, that amongſt other matters, the nabob, on his lordſhip's repreſentation of the great expence of ſuch an army as would be neceſſary to ſupport him in his government, to defray the large ſum due for reſtitution, and to the navy, together with the annual tribute which was of neceſſity to be paid to the King, had conſented that all the revenues of the country ſhould be appropriated to thoſe purpoſes, 50 lacks of rupees a year for himſelf excepted, out of which ſum all his expences of every denomination, including Cavalry and Seepoys, were to be defrayed. That Lord Clive left the particulars of the above propoſitions to be ſettled by Mr. Sykes, if the ſelect committee ſhould approve of it.—That on the 28th of July Mr. Sykes informed the ſelect committee, by a letter of that date, that the nabob had agreed to accept the annual ſtipend of 53,86,131 ſicca rupees per annum, and to make over the management of the ſubahdarree, with every advantage ariſing from it, to the Company; that out of the above ſtipend he was to allow 2,76,000 rupees a year, to the different branches of his family.——That theſe payments were to be made by Mahomed Reza Cawn, Roy Dullub, and Juggut Seet, monthly; who were alſo to have the

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payments of all the nabob's troops, ſervants, &c. And that the ſelect committee, by their letter of the 10th of Auguſt, expreſſed their approbation of the above regulations; but deſired Mr. Sykes to reſerve the ratification of them to Lord Clive and the ſelect committee. Your Committee have annexed hereunto, No 88, a letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the ſelect committee, dated Benares 3 Auguſt 1765, ſtating the particulars of the conference they had had with Sujah Dowlah, and the terms which they had offered to him for the treaty of peace, and alſo a copy of the letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the ſelect committee, dated Illahabad 12 Auguſt, No 89, acquainting them with the negociations between them and the king, and the terms which were then ſettled between them on the grant of the Dewannee to the Company. And your Committee find, by another letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the ſelect committee, of the 20th of Auguſt, that the treaty of peace was concluded; but that Sujah Dowlah having expreſſed the greateſt reluctance at conſenting to the 8th article of the treaty, and having frankly confeſſed, that the encroachments of the Engliſh in Bengal, with regard to trade, and the great abuſes and exactions committed by the Company's ſervants, and others countenanced by them, made him apprehenſive of the conſequence in his dominions, and had expreſſed ſo much uneaſineſs about the word factories, that they had at laſt agreed to leave it out of the treaty; and ſuggeſted the propriety of even withdrawing the factory at Benaras, as ſoon as the Company's engagements with Bulwantſing ſhould expire. That on the 7th of September 1765, Lord Clive reſumed his ſeat at the ſelect committee, and laid before them an account of his ſeveral negociations with the country powers, during his abſence from the preſidency; videlicet, The treaty of peace with Sujah Dowlah—the royal grant of the office of the Dewannee of Bengal and Bahar, and Orixa—the grant of the reverſion of Lord Clive's Jaghire to the Company in perpetuity, on the expiration of his lordſhip's term therein—the confirmation in perpetuity of Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong, and of the 24 purgunnahs of Calcutta, which had been formerly aſſigned to the Company by the Nabob Myr Jaffier—the confirmation of the Company's poſſeſſions in the neighbourhood of Madraſs, &c.—the grant of the northern ſircars in perpetuity—alſo the articles of agreement with the king, for the due payment of the 26 lacks of rupees per annum to his majeſty, and the agreement with the nabod for the annual ſtipend, as above ſtated, to be paid his excellency for the ſupport of the nizamut. Copies of all which are hereunto annexed, N° 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, and 96.

And your Committee then read a ſtate of the revenues of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, and the Northern Sircars; copies of which are alſo hereunto annexed, N° 97.

And the opinion of the ſelect committee with regard to the conduct of Lord Clive and General Carnac, in the aforeſaid negociations, being fully expreſſed in their letters to thoſe gentlemen of the 7th of September 1765, your Committee have annexed hereunto copies of both the ſaid letters, N° 98 and 99.

And your Committee find, by the ſelect committee's letter to the Court of Directors, 30th September 1765, and from Lord Clive's letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th September, paragraphs 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15, and from his lordſhip's letter to the Court of Directors 28th November 1765, a copy of which is annexed, N° 100, written chiefly in cypher, and ſent over land; that full information was given to the Company of all the above-mentioned negociations, together with the obſervations of the ſelect committee, and of Lord Clive, upon thoſe important events.

And your Committee find, by a letter from Lord Clive to the council, 11th June 1766, that Sujah Dowla on that day diſcharged the whole of the treaty money.

Your Committee refer to the 5, 17, 18 and 19 paragraphs of the Company's ſeperate letter to Bengal, dated 24th December 1765, hereunto annexed, containing the opinion of the Court of Directors upon the conduct of the Company's ſervants, in the courſe of the war againſt Coſſim Ally Cawn, condemning the demand which had been made of the Goſſipore country, and the intention of conquering Sujah Dowla's country for the King, requiring them to adopt ſome ſyſtem which might clearly mark out the barriers of the country government and ours, and ordering the ſtricteſt inquiry to be made, whether any contributions had been exacted by the ſervants from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, on his ſucceſſion to the ſubahſhip.

Your Committee have annexed, No. 101, an extract from the Company's general letter to Bengal, dated 19th Febuary 1766, containing the further opinion of the Court of Directors upon the treaty with the King, upon the meaſures purſued on the death of Jaffier Ally Cawn, the appointment of independent duans, together with their ſtrictures upon the treaty with the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah.

Your Committee refer the Houſe to the 58th Paragraph of the general letter from the governor and council of Bengal, dated the 12th of November 1761, concerning their reaſons for refuſing the offer of the Dewannee of Bengal; which your Committee find were approved of by the Court of Directors in the 55th paragraph of their letter to Bengal, dated 9 March 1763, both of which are hereunto annexed.

Your Committee then requeſted the right honourable the Lord Clive to ſay, Whether in his opinion the grant of the Dewannee was really a grant from a prince who from his ſituation at that

time might be ſuppoſed capable of beſtowing ſuch conceſſions, or whether it was an inſtrument executed as a piece of form, which his lordſhip thought it expedient to take from political motives.—His lordſhip referred to the public records of the company, wherein his ſentiments on that ſubject are entered, as well as a deſcription of the then ſituation of the Mogul.—And being asked, If the Mogul had any troops at that time, and to what number?—He ſaid, Some thouſands; and in regard to lands or revenues to pay them, he believed he was in poſſeſſion of Illahabad, and that Sujah Dowlah, and many princes of the country, made him large preſents. And being asked, If the Mogul was at that time wholly dependent on the bounty of the Engliſh for protection and even ſubſiſtence?—he ſaid, He did not know that the Engliſh afforded him any ſubſiſtence at that time, nor till the articles of peace were ſettled with Sujah Dowlah; when the treaty was made that he ſhould have particular poſſeſſions, and a certain annual ſtipend—that he certainly expected aſſiſtance from the Engliſh; but that if he had been diſpoſed to ask for aſſiſtance from other powers, all Indoſtan was open to him, and particularly the Marrattas—that the Mogul was not in the power of the Engliſh army at the time he granted the Dewannee, but was his own maſter, to do as he pleaſed, though his power in Bengal was totally annihilated.—And being asked, Who put the Mogul in poſſeſſion of Illahabad?—He ſaid, The Company did; and that he did not know of his having any other poſſeſſions at that time; and could not ſay whether, as the time was ſo ſhort, he had collected any of the revenues of the place, or made any arrangement of government, from the time he was put in poſſeſſion of it, to the time of granting the Dewannee. And being asked, If the Mogul could have refuſed the grant of the Dewannee, provided the Engliſh had inſiſted upon it, without riſquing his own ruin? he ſaid, It was certainly his intereſt to grant it to the Company, who might have taken it without his conſent; whether they would have done ſo his lordſhip could not ſay: that there was ſtill ſo much reſpect for the Great Mogul, that the independant nabobs applied to him for their confirmation, which confirmation is generally attended with conſiderable preſents from the princes ſo confirmed, who give them to the perſon they apply to as Mogul: that at the time of granting the Dewannee the Mogul was at Illahabad: that his Son was then reigning at Delhi but always acknowleged that he acted under his father; but his lordſhip could not ſay whether the father acknowledged the ſon to be his delegate. And being asked, If he could particularize any nabob who made preſents on application for confirmation to the Mogul at Illahabad?—he ſaid, Nudjum ul Dowlah did.

Your Committee then called General Carnac, who being aſked, If the Mogul, when he granted the Dewannee, was in ſuch a ſituation as to induce him to ſuppoſe it was a voluntary grant, and that he was in poſſeſſion of ſuch authority as could enable him to do it? ſaid, That Shah Aalum was really to all intents and purpoſes the Great Mogul, as much as any of his predeceſſors: In proof of which, the witneſs ſaid, The two great honours annexed to that dignity he enjoyed equally with his predeceſſors, viz. the cootba or prayer for him as king was univerſally read, and money coined in his name, throughout the whole empire—that ſince the invaſion of Nadir, the diſtant provinces have been very deficient in their payments of the royal revenues; but that to his certain knowledge the complimentary nazars or preſents were ſent to Shah Aalum by the neighbouring provinces; and as he believed the province of Delhi paid a yearly allowance to his ſon, who reſided there as his delegate; that there is no doubt but the Engliſh might have forced the grant of the Dewannee from the Mogul, if they thought it prudent or juſt ſo to do; but that ſuch a proceeding would have excited a general odium againſt the Engliſh throughout all Indoſtan, and that no ſuch force was impoſed on him—that he gave it voluntarily, and had offered it to the witneſs before—that his intereſt was now concerned in the grant, for there was ſecured to him a much more conſiderable annuity than would probably have been paid him by any nabob—that the Mogul had been in the hands of Sujah Dowlah, who had made uſe of the royal name to collect the revenues from the adjacent provinces; but that upon the defeat of Sujah Dowlah he again ſurrendered himſelf to the Engliſh, and was by them inveſted with the provinces of Korah and Illahabad in full ſovereignty—that at the time of granting the Dewannee his main dependance was upon the Engliſh—that a part of the Company's troops were attending him at Illahabad, and that he never was without ſome of them while the witneſs remained in the country; for that the Mogul was jealous of Sujah Dowlah, and would have been very uneaſy without them.

To complete their inquiries upon this head, your Committee find, by a letter from Lord Clive and General Carnac to the council, dated 30th April 1766 (Appendix N° 102) that the firſt poonah for Bengal, ſince our becoming poſſeſſed of the Dewannee, was held on the preceding day, the forms of which were approved of by the Company, as appears by the 15th paragraph of their letter to the ſelect committee, 16 of March 1768, as follows.

" The forms eſtabliſhed by Lord Clive at the ſolemnity of the poonah ſhould in future be " obſerved; and when the governor is not preſent, the reſident at the durbar muſt repreſent the " king's duan."

And your Committee finding from the records of the Company, relative to the laſt period of their inquiry, that orders had been iſſued from the Court of Directors to enquire particulaly into the circumſtances of the death of Nudjum ul Dowlah a report prevailing that he had been poiſoned, they deſired Mr. Sykes to relate what he knew upon that ſubject; and he informed your Committee.

mittee, that to the beſt of his remembrance, when Lord Clive, General Carnac, and ſeveral other gentlemen, were on their way to Patna in 1765, his lordſhip proceeded from Muxadabad to a garden called Seradbaug:—That the nabob being deſirous of waiting on his lordſhip at the garden, the witneſs accompanied him thither, where he ſtaid till 10 or 11 o'clock at night; that Mahomed Reza Cawn was alſo preſent, and that his excellency complained then very much of being indiſpoſed, and the witneſs adviſed him to return to the city, and not expoſe his perſon to the cold, he having as it appeared to him then an ague fit on him; and that he went to his own houſe accordingly:—That the witneſs hearing the next day, upon inquiry, that he was worſe, went to ſee him, and found that he was confined to his bed in a high fever—that he continued growing worſe three or four days, in which time the witneſs made him two or three viſits—that his excellency the third or fourth day of his illneſs ſent word he ſhould be glad to ſee him—that he went accordingly, and on his arrival found him delirious and convulſed—that he remained very near him till he died, which was about two hours after his arrival—that he heard ſome rumours from the preſidency at Calcutta, that he had not fair play, or that he was brought to an untimely end, or ſomething to that purpoſe; in conſequence of which he applied to the mother to know if ſhe entertained any idea of that nature; that ſhe aſſured him ſhe did not, and that if there had been any ſuſpicion in the nabob's mind, he would certainly have mentioned it to the witneſs; that he never heard any perſon at the city throw out any idea of ſuſpicion upon that ſubject; that, as he believed, Mr. Vereſt mentioned in a private letter, that there was ſuch a rumour in Calcutta and that it was levelled at Lord Clive and the gentlemen in adminiſtration by their enemies.—And being aſked, Whether the nabob eat or drank any thing at the garden, to which he imputed the ſudden increaſe of his diſorder? he ſaid, He believed he drank ſome ice water, which as he was ill before, was certainly not proper for his ſituation; and that he does not recollect there was any entertainment, but what the nabob brought with him for his own family:—That the nabob was not guilty of any particular intemperance at that time; but that he believed an irregular way of living, a groſs habit of body, and fondneſs of women haſtened his death.—And being aſked, Whether he conſidered the 24th paragraph of the letter from the ſelect committee of the 8th of September 1766, to the Court of Directors, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, as a proper account of the death of Nudjum ul Dowlah? he ſaid He ſhould have ſubſcribed it, except with reſpect to his eating, not being a judge how far he was intemperate in that—that the nabob had the venereal diſeaſe to a very ſevere degree, and that when he viſited him in his illneſs, he imputed his approaching death both to the fever and the venereal diſeaſe—that he had been ill three or four days when he viſited Lord Clive at Seradbaug, and had a fever on him at that time—and that he took the ice water [illegible]; And being aſked, If any individual benefited by his death? he ſaid, He believed not; but the Eaſt India Company did, in that they took the opportunity of reducing the allowance that was made for the military eſtabliſhment of the former nabob, by reducing it from 55 lacks a year to rupees 41,81,131.

Your Committee then examined General Carnac, a member of the Houſe, who being aſked, If he knew any of the circumſtances of the death of Nudjum ul Dowlah? ſaid, That as he was going up the country in May 1766, he went through Muxadabad, where the nabob was very ill—that he waited on his excellency, and found him in ſo violent a putrid fever, that he uſed every argument to prevent his going to take leave of Lord Clive, who was then a few miles beyond the city at Seradbaug—that to the great ſurpriſe of the witneſs he came thither, and in a very few days after he heard of his death, at which, knowing the dangerous ſituation in which he left him, and being of a groſs habit of body, he was no way ſurpriſed—that he did not remember any particular intemperance he was guilty of at that time, but that he was a very intemperate young man. And being aſked, If he knew any inſtance of a nabob, or any other perſon of the country, being put to death by the Engliſh, except in battle? he ſaid, He did not; and that there is no inſtance of wars being carried on in any part of the world, with more humanity than thoſe in Indoſtan againſt the natives. And being aſked, What is a fever affecting the nose? he ſaid, A particular kind of putrid fever commonly in that country called the Ava fever, and which is ſaid to be attended with an itching at the noſe; and that the nabob had intimated to the witneſs ſuch complaint.

And your Committee find, by the letter from Mr. Sykes, to the council at Fort William, dated 8th of May 1766, that the nabob died that day—and by a letter from Lord Clive, and General Carnac, to the council of the 9th of May 1766—that he died of that ſort of fever that affecteth the nose, and is generally ſuppoſed incurable.

Your Committee proceeded next to inquire into the riſe and progreſs of the ſalt ſociety, and of other matters relative to that trade, and they have cloſed their evidence thereupon; but finding it impoſſible to arrange and tranſcribe ſo extenſive a proceeding before the receſs, they have reſerved it for a future report, which they will lay before the Houſe with all poſſible diſpatch.

But your Committee think it expedient, before they diſmiſs the above proceedings, to take notice, that the following papers, which they thought neceſſary for their inſpection in different parts of their inquiry, were not to be found; and in enumerating the ſaid papers, your Committee have given their reaſons why it appears to them they ought to have been upon the Company's records.

N. B.

N. B. Theſe two laſt letters are not entered in the regular Courſe of the Correſpondence, but are brought in a full month after the date of their receipt, and entered poſterior to 8 other letters received in that interval.

Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, 23d June 1765, in the Perſian correſpondence, N° 119, wrote in anſwer to one from Lord Clive, becauſe he recapitulates the ſubſtance, and ſays, He was honoured with his lordſhip's letter; and further ſays, That his lordſhip deſires he would immediately acquaint him, whether the diſtribution of the money was made by the nabob of his own free will, or by me, or by the directions of any other perſons—Lord Clive's letter, to which it evidently refers, is not entered on the correſpondence.

Letter from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, 24th June 1765, N° 120, is evidently wrote in anſwer to one from Lord Clive, acquainting the nabob of its being fixed in council, that Mr. John Johnſtone ſhould continue no longer in the ſervice:—The letter to which it refers is not entered.

Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, N° 101, acknowledges a letter from Lord Clive to him, and recapitulates the purport thereof, viz. That he ſhould have accompanied the nabob to Calcutta.—The letter of his lordſhip is not entered.

Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, 18 May 1765, N° 102, referring to a letter received from Lord Clive; in which letter Mahomed Reza Cawn ſays, He hopes to be with his lordſhip in three or four days; and concludes, ſaying, "And then with regard to what you mention in your letter, "I will give you a full account of all particulars."—His lordſhip's letter not entered.

Letter from the Burdwan raja, 23 May 1765, N° 105. acknowledging he had the honour to receive his lordſhip's letter in anſwer to his addreſs.—His lordſhip's letter not entered.

Letter from the nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, 9 June 1765, N° 109, acknowledging the receipt of a letter from Lord Clive—but his lordſhip's letter does not appear.

Letter from Lord Clive to Mahomed Reza Cawn, 22 July 1765, N° 35, of letters ſent; wherein his lordſhip acknowledges the receipt of Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter, in anſwer to one he had wrote him; and adds that he did well in preventing his excellency from writing an improper anſwer on the ſubject of the money.—Neither Lord Clive's letter, nor Mahomed Reza Cawn's anſwer, acknowledged by his lordſhip—appears to be entered.

And Mr. Johnſon, a clerk of the India Houſe, who has attended your Committee during the courſe of their proceeding, being examined, ſaid, Mr. Morton and he had ſearched very diligently, in conſequence of their being aſked for, ſome time ago by a member of the Committee, but cannot find them; and apprehend they were never entered:—The books in which they ought to have been entered were received in Auguſt 1766.

And your Committee likewiſe think proper, at the cloſe of this report to inform the Houſe, That through the whole of their proceedings, they have taken the part to receive information from every perſon diſpoſed to give it; and in putting of queſtions, not to inſiſt upon an anſwer, which any perſons declined to make.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

Patna, the 31ſt July, 1761.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

ON Tueſday laſt his excellency the Nabob went in grand proceſſion from his encampment to the Kella, in the city, and there received the uſual ſalamince.

In order to remove as much as lay in my power, the ſentiments which the people were poſſeſſed of, that the Engliſh were not his friends, I had the honour to accompany him on the ſame elephant; and on his arrival in the Kella, preſented him with the keys of the city gate.

The next day Raja Ramnarrain, attended by a ſingle peon, found his way into that part of the Kella where his excellency was ſitting, notwithſtanding he had been before denied the preſence. Upon this abrupt entrance, Raja Rajabullub was immediately diſpatched by his excellency to deſire I would get him away from thence; for as he would not retire by order of the Nabob, his excellency apprehended if he forced him out, it might be deemed by ſome that he had broke his engagement, which he is determined to obſerve inviolably. Upon this I ſent for him to meet Rajaballub at the factory; who told him he was ready to ſit on the part of the Nabob to examine the books of the Sircar; and delivered the Raja a liſt of thoſe books he wanted to inſpect, requiring at the ſame time the attendance of three perſons who were in Ramnarrain's ſervice.

After much altercation on both parts, and finding no probability of a compliance on the part of the Raja, I read to him your honour, &c's. inſtructions to me, under date the 6th inſtant, relative to him, and told him by not ſending the books of the Sircar wanted, together with the people, he would lay your honour, &c. under the diſagreeable neceſſity of withdrawing your requeſt to the Nabob to preſerve his honour; hereupon he promiſed to ſend the books that evening, but according to cuſtom, this he evaded.

Yeſterday, agreeable to appointment, Raja Rajabullub, accompanied by Rajahs Nobutroy and Seiterman, with the ſervants belonging to their different departments, arrived, and the Raja met them here without books or ſervants; being again repeatedly aſked for the books, he ſometimes ſaid he had none, at other times they were coming, and that many of them were among the books he ſent into the factory about ſix or ſeven days ago. On having thoſe papers brought up and inſpected, they ſaid they were nothing to the purpoſe; being then aſked for the three ſervants, whom the Nabob ſaid could give us an inſight into the ſtate of the Sircar, he replied he would not let them appear without my giving him aſſurance their honour ſhould be ſafe; for he ſuſpected a deſign to puniſh them, even to the loſs of life, if they did not make ſuch confeſſions as were agreeable to the Nabob. Upon this I told him this was no Cutcherry, that I interfered now in adjuſting the accounts in conſequence of his Excellency's particular requeſt; but ſince he entertained ſuch an opinion of me, I would have nothing more to do in his affairs, and to make this declaration I was the rather induced, as it appears very plainly to me, he will never deliver in the accounts demanded of him, till he is turned over to the Nabob's Cutcherry; for whilſt he finds your honour, &c. are mediators with the Nabob, not to diſhonour him, he knows he cannot be obliged to comply, and under this ſhelter the Nabob muſt go without the accounts.

I remain with great reſpect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

W. M'Gwire.

No. 2.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; preſident and governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

THIS waits on you to adviſe, that his Excellency yeſterday appointed Raja Rajabullub to the poſt which Raja Ramnarrain held under him in this province.

I am with great reſpect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

Patna, 2d Auguſt, 1761. W. M'GWIRE.

No. 3.

Letter from Governor and Council of Fort William, to William Hay, Eſquire, Provincial Chief at Patna.

SIR,

WE have received your letter of the 21ſt inſtant. If Ramnarrain ſhould ſettle his accounts with the Nabob, he will of courſe be of liberty wherever his intereſt or inclination may lead him; if on the contrary he has not yet ſettled his accounts, we think we have interfered long enough, and do not mean to encourage him in his obſtinate and perverſe dependance on our protection; in ſuch caſe, therefore, we direct that he be delivered over to the Nabob's Cutcherry, there to be made to give an account of his adminiſtration, according to the laws and cuſtoms of the country; the patience which the Nabob has already had, together with what the preſident writes to him further, gives us reaſon to be ſatisfied, that he will not do any violence to Ramnarrain's perſon.

As the Nabob repreſented to the preſident, that Shitabroy's coming down to Calcutta will be detrimental to his affairs, we think it may be diſpenſed with, and the neceſſary enquiries be made of him before Mr. Ellis and the reſt of the council at Patna.

We are, Sir,

31ſt Auguſt, 1761. Your loving friends.

No. 4.

Letter from Mr. M'Gwire to Select Committee.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

EVER ſince the receipt of your inſtructions to the Colonel and me, I have uſed my endeavours to bring about the adjuſtments of the accounts of this Subahſhip, conformable to the plan your honour, &c. tranſmitted to us, and am concerned to ſay, hitherto without being able to ſucceed. The Rajah promiſes to deliver them in daily, but gives me to underſtand, the accounts for two years were loſt in his battle with the Prince, and that he is neceſſitated to have recourſe to the recollection of himſelf and writers for the forming the greateſt part of them; in ſhort, he ſeems to me to build his hopes of ſucceſs in delay, whereby he expects to weary out his Excellency's patience.

Thus when the accounts are delivered in, you may eaſily conceive how liable they will be to objections, ſince they are to be formed by a man whom every one allows to be backward and evaſive.

The only method which appears to me, if your Honour, &c. ſhould continue determined to ſupport him, to come to a true knowledge of his accounts, is to ſuſpend him from his office, at leaſt during this ſcrutiny; by which means thoſe who have it in their power to give proper inſights into his tranſactions will not be intimidated from giving their aſſiſtance whilſt his authority is dormant.

But, Gentlemen, I requeſt your permiſſion to come more immediately to the point. We have thought it neceſſary to confer the Subahſhip of the three Sircars on Myr Coſſim, under certain articles, and therein have agreed not to protect his ſervants, which agreement is mutual. He is come up here to put this Province upon a better footing than it was before, and is at no leſs an expence than eight lacks per month, which on account of arrears due to his troops, it is not in his power to reduce at preſent; he has not collected any of the revenues

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ſince his arrival, nor will he be able whilſt the country people obſerve his power ſo limited, that he cannot turn out and put into power thoſe whom he may think proper; thus he remains inactive, his debts increaſing, and in all probability will be thereby reduced, by cruel neceſſity to as bad a ſtate as Mier Jaffer was before the revolution.

I know well the principal argument for ſupporting Ramnarrain has been his attachment to the Engliſh; but this does no where appear from his actions, nay, I am certain the contrary will be evident, when the whole of his conduct is nicely examined into; that he is evaſive and unfit for the government, I believe my predeceſſor will allow; where then is our merit in ſigning a treaty with Myr Coſſim, whereby ſuch manifeſt advantages ariſe to the Company, if we break it on our parts, by attempting to ſupport a man in every reſpect obnoxious to him, ſo obnoxious, that he has been neceſſitated to make at leaſt a ſhew of friendſhip with Raja Rajabullub, a man who from having been his competitor for the Dewanneeſhip, and miſcarrying therein, can never be in his real intereſt, any more than that of the Engliſh?

As we have made him Nabob, we ought ſurely to ſupport him, ſo long as he behaves worthy of it, and not drive him to ſome act of raſhneſs, which few beſides himſelf would in my opinion have ſo long refrained from; for what muſt his ſituation be with ſuch a rabble of an army, who find him to have no weight or authority?

I am, with reſpect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,

Your moſt obedient humble Servant,

Patna, 21 June, 1761. W. M'Gwire.

No. 5.

Extracts from Governor Vanſittart's letter to Mr. M'Gwire, dated 18th June 1761.

IF the Committee's orders of the 17th of laſt month had been complied with, every thing had been ſettled before now; they plainly implied a ſuſpenſion of Ramnarrain's authority while the old accounts were under examination; and that the collection of revenues, and in ſhort, the entire adminiſtration ſhould be left to the Nabob. It is not eaſy to make people underſtand what they are unwilling to execute; however, I think the preſent orders cannot be miſtaken, either on the ſubject of the Patna province and Ramnarrain in particular, or the Nabob's adminiſtration in general.—They are addreſſed to Colonel Coote only, with an order to conſult with you, for the reaſons therein mentioned. I ſend you incloſed a copy of this letter, the contents of which you may communicate to the Nabob; and deliver him that which I ſend you under this cover to his addreſs.

The news by the Hawke you have no doubt had from your other friends. The Company's letter is only upon general ſubjects, mighty ſmooth and fair; but many private letters to me and others ſay, that they are extremely offended at the letter from home, per Royal George, and that all who ſigned it are to paſs under their ſevereſt cenſure; I hope for many reaſons it will not be ſo.

No. 6.

Extracts of the Governor and Company's letter to Mr. M'Gwire, dated the 26th of June, 1761.

WITH reſpect to Ramnarrian, it will be neceſſary to be more particular:—Colonel Coote is already directed to aſſiſt the Nabob, ſo far as to ſuſpend him, Ramnarrain, from his government until the accounts are ſettled, and to put the Nabob's people into poſſeſſion of all the revenues. This you will conform to, and let him be brought to an adjuſtment of his accounts by ſuch meaſures as the Nabob ſhall think proper. The preſident has wrote to him ſo ſtrongly in favour of Ramnarrain, ſo far as regards his life and honour, that we are perſuaded the Nabob will not be deſirous of carrying his reſentment for his ill behaviour to any ſuch length.

No. 7.

Extracts of a letter from Mr. Hay the provincial chief of Patna, to Governor Vanſittart, dated 28th Auguſt, 1761.

I Have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 10th Inſtant, addreſſed to William M'Gwire, Eſquire; or the chief for the time being.

The Nabob, before the receipt of your letter, was reſolved not to demand any account at all from Ramnarrain, or even receive ſeven lacks of rupees which he had offered him for to clear his account; I told him that I was ſurprized that he would not receive the ſum offered, as

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he intended not to trouble Ramnarrain any further for his account. He anſwered me that as he had not ſettled the accounts of the province with Ramnarrain, it might be looked upon as an extortion if he received it, and deſired me to write his reſolution to the board, which I accordingly did, under date the 21ſt inſtant. He is now determined to have the account; but ſays he will proceed in ſuch a manner as not to hurt the Rajah's honour. This I am in hopes he will be enabled to do, as Ramnarrain tells me he will do every thing in his power to ſatisfy the Nabob, which I have been continually perſuading him to do as the only means to ſave his reputation. The Seapoy guard that was placed at the Rajah's houſe by Mr. M'Gwire, at the requeſt of the Nabob, has been taken off, and a number of Hircarrahs, and Chubdars are now placed round the houſe, with a ſmall guard under one of the Nabob's principal Zemindars, which Ramnarrain deſired, after he found the Seapoys would be continued with him no longer. In this ſituation the Nabob tells me he ſhall let things continue for three or four days, by which time he ſuppoſes Ramnarrain will have ſufficiently reflected, that he can receive no protection if he continues not to render him a proper account, and then ſend to him for his accounts, which if he does not deliver or agree to ſettle, he will ſend people to ſearch for them in the houſe. This is the preſent ſituation of this affair, and as I think Ramnarrain will no longer refuſe the Nabob what ſatisfaction it is in his power to give, in regard to the accounts, and obſerve the Nabob's moderation, I am in great hopes their accounts will be ſoon ſettled to your ſatisfaction.

No. 8.

Extracts of a letter from Mr. Hay, provincial chief of Patna, to Governor Vanſittart, dated 7th September, 1761.

I Have had the honour of receiving your letters of the 26th and 29th ult.

The Nabob ſome days ago gave Ramnarrain a beetle, on his giving a paper to him in which he ſays it is impoſſible for him to give the accounts of the province; but conſents and promiſes fifty lacks, twenty-five of which are to be paid immediately in money, and in bonds to Zemindars in the Nabob's ſervice (who will accept them) the other twenty-five lacks the Nabob informs me are to be rather as a ſecurity for Ramnarrain's future good conduct, than as a bond he expects to have paid. As yet there has been nothing paid, Ramnarrain has always pleaded poverty to me; but I think he would hardly have ſigned ſuch a paper as this, without intending to perform what he has agreed to do in it. The Nabob in this affair, though he was obliged to proceed in ſuch a manner as a good deal to frighten Ramnarrain, has I think paid the greateſt regard to your recommendation in regard to his life and honour.

No. 9.

Extract of the Governor's letter to Mr. M'Gwire, dated 30th December, 1761.

I Have received your favour of the 18th, with Mr. Walmough's letter incloſed. I was in Hopes of hearing that he had arrived at Patna, as he was diſpatched from hence the 22d September. On the 14th October, I diſpatched to you under charge Mr. Menzie, 16,400 Mds. of ſalt, which, with the 20,000 Mds. by Mr. Walmough, is the whole of what arrived ſafe at Calcutta, out of the 40,000 which I promiſed to ſend on our joint account. I have read a letter, acquainting me that Mr. Menzie was at Itchamanny the 8th December; as ſoon as I can get the Account, Charges of the Salt from Inhgelle, it ſhall be ſent you.

No. 10.

Extract of Mr. M'Gwire's letter to the Governor, dated 28th July.

THE Raja has of late taken it into his head, that if he can gain me to his intereſt, his affairs muſt ſucceed: I told him very ingenuouſly, though from his behaviour he had no right to expect it, that I would give him advice, which if he would follow, he would be convinced was the only means left for rendering him ſervice; and that was by advancing ſuch a ſum to his Excellency, joined to proper and public ſubmiſſions, as would reſtore him to his favour; that he might be aſſured there was no other means left whereby he could ſucceed; for, however he might be ſpirited by people (who preferred their private intereſt to the public Good) to act in a contrary manner, he would find his error when too late for remedy. I preſume this had ſome weight with him, for I found him in waiting

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at the Nabob's tent laſt night; but do not know at this time whether the Nabob admitted him to an interview or not.

The Nabob told me, That upon his arrival ſome of his Zemindars came to him, and ſaid, If the Engliſh are your friends, why don't you put an end to theſe diſturbances by decollation? when the Raja is no more, you will find they will only have then your intereſt to conſult:—He is now in your tent, and it may be eaſily done. I repreſented to him, a ſtept of this nature would not only forfeit my friendſhip for him, but would immediately make you as much his enemy as ever you was his friend:—That theſe ſteps which the Raja had taken to injure him with the Engliſh, would prove in the end of real ſervice to him, by ſhewing him to the world a man of moderation; and that his innocence muſt appear more conſpicuous, by patiently bearing up againſt thoſe indignities at preſent, than by removing the Raja, which would confirm to the world, his enemies had ſome grounds for acting in this manner; and that by a little more patience he would find you would extricate him out of his preſent diſagreeable ſituation.

No. 11.

Extracts of Mr. M'Gwire's Letter to the Governor, dated 31ſt July 1761.

ADDITIONAL to what I wrote the board, I am to acquaint you, that the Raja ſtayed with me ſome time after the departure of Rajabullub, and ſaid there was no way left for him ever to get into the Nabob's favour, unleſs his excellency could be brought to a compromiſe. I told him his excellency had acquainted me, he before demanded of him either the books of the Sircar, or a crore of rupees; he ſaid he had no money, but if the Nabob would reſtore him to his government, he ſaid he believed he might be able to raiſe twenty-five or thirty lacks. I told him his excellency was determined to give the kelaut of Patna to Rajabullub; but waited only for a lucky day; but as you had recommended him to the Nabob, I would uſe my endeavours alſo to get him into the Nabob's favour, provided he empowered me to mention an handſome ſum; and that after he had obtained a clearance for what was paſt, he would give the Nabob a true ſtate of the revenues of the province, to prevent his being impoſed on by any future Naib: He entreated me to propoſe a ſum, and after frequent requeſts for this purpoſe, I thought he could not propoſe a leſs ſum than eighty lacks; he then pleaded his poverty, and ſaid he would endeavour to raiſe a lack; I begged him to apply to ſome one elſe to ſpeak to the Nabob on his behalf, for that I could not mention a leſs ſum than I propoſed, without running manifeſt riſque of loſing the ſhare I had in his excellency's confidence; at laſt he propoſed giving five lacks, which if once reſtored to favour he believed he could have intereſt enough to raiſe; and thus we parted; however I expect him again to-morrow.

No. 12.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident and Governor, &c. &c. Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

ON receipt of your honour's, &c. &c. orders of the 10th inſtant, I applied to Mr. M'Gwire for the inſtructions he had received from you for his conduct in affairs with the government; and have received from him your letter to his addreſs, dated the 26th June 1761, I ſhall make it my particular care to follow your orders therein contained. I yeſterday waited on the Nabob, who after ſome converſation with me about the difficulty he had met in ſettling his accounts with Ramnarrain, told me, and deſired I would write to your honour, &c. &c. that he was come to a reſolution not to trouble Ramnarrain any further about them, or ever make any demand on him hereafter; and further, that he was now at liberty, either to remain here at Patna, or go out of the province, or to Calcutta; but that he ſhould be better pleaſed if he choſe the latter, and hoped it would be agreeable to your honour, &c. &c. I am with the greateſt reſpect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs, your moſt obedient humble Servant,

Patna, Auguſt 21ſt, 1761. W. HAY.

No. 13.

Fort William, 26th June 1761.

At a conſultation, preſent,——The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident,——Peter Amyatt, Eſq;—William Ellis, Eſq;——W. B. Sumner, Eſq;—Culling Smith, Eſq;

WE have thought proper to order Colonel Coote and Major Carnac to return to Calcutta with all the army, excepting two hundred Europeans rank and file, the European cavalry, fifty of the artillery, two thouſand of the Seapoys, and two hundred country horſe, the which are to be left at Patna, under the command of Captain Carſtairs, to act under your directions.—As the province cannot be invaded by any foreign enemies during the rains, we think the above-mentioned force ſufficient for the preſent purpoſe, which is only to aſſiſt the Nabob in ſettling accounts with Ramnarrain, and the ſeveral Zemindars of the Patna province.

This you are to do in general to the utmoſt of your power, in ſuch manner as he may apply to you.—With reſpect to Ramnarrain, it may be neceſſary to be ſomewhat more particular: Colonel Coote is already directed to aſſiſt the Nabob, ſo far as to ſuſpend him (Ramnarrain) from his government until the accounts are ſettled, and to put the Nabob's people in poſſeſſion of all the revenues; this you will conform to, and let him be brought to an adjuſtment of his accounts by ſuch meaſures as the Nabob ſhall think proper.—The preſident has wrote to him ſo ſtrongly in favour of Ramnarrain, ſo far as regards his life and honour, that we are perſuaded the Nabob will not be deſirous of carrying his reſentment for his ill behaviour to any ſuch length.

If any part of the Nabob's demands upon Ramnarrain ſhould appear to you unreaſonable, you will acquaint us with the particulars, and wait our anſwer; deſiring the Nabob to let ſuch article remain undecided until our anſwer comes from Calcutta.

In all military affairs, we recommend to you to conſult with Captain Carſtairs, or the officer commanding the troops, and give due Weight to his opinion.

We deſire the charges of the troops may be brought into the ſmalleſt bounds poſſible, by reduction of Batta, Coolies, Boats, Bullocks, &c. on all occaſions that will admit of it; and you will obſerve to diſcharge all the country horſe, except two hundred of the beſt, to be kept under the command of the Jemautdars, Ali Raza Cawn and Mirza Shawbaug Beg.

No. 14.

Major Carnac's Letter to Select Committee, 13 *April,* 1761.

Gentlemen,

THE Shahzadah does not think the aſſurances of your ſupport and aſſiſtance ſo ſtrong as to juſtify his waiting ſo many months for the fulfilling thereof; nor has he (he obſerves) a ſufficiency for the ſubſiſtence of his people and himſelf in the interim; he therefore judges it moſt adviſeable to take the advantage of Abdallah's abſence, and try his fortune alone: I kept him off from this deſign ſeveral days; but the Nabob has at laſt ſo effectually counteracted me, by bribing ſome of the prince's favourites to urge to him the neceſſity of his immediate departure, that this counſel has prevailed; he quitted the city in the morning, and is now arrived at his tents; I imagine he will be for marching as ſpeedily as poſſible. And as I have promiſed to accompany him as far at leaſt as the Caramnaſſa, I have ordered half of Major Yorke's detachment to join us, leaving the reſt under the command of Captain Robinſon to attend the Nabob, agreeable to his requeſt.

I have long had reaſon to ſuſpect the Nabob had ill deſigns againſt Ramnarrain, and have now found my ſuſpicions to be too true. His excellency made a heavy complaint to me yeſterday, in the preſence of Mr. M'Gwire, Major Yorke, Meſſrs. Luſhington and Swinton, that there was a conſiderable balance due on the revenues of the ſaid province; Ramnarrain has declared to me, that he was very ready to lay the accounts before him; however, as the two parties differ widely in their ſtatement, Mr. M'Gwire and I propoſed that they ſhould each make out their accounts, and refer them to your board, who would fairly decide between them: This, which I thought was a reaſonable propoſal, was ſo far from being ſatisfactory to the Nabob, that he plainly declared nothing leſs could ſatisfy him than the Mahraja's being removed from the Naibat of this province before he returned to Moorſhedabad. You are all I believe acquainted, Gentlemen, that Colonel Clive engaged to Ramnarrain, on the part of the Engliſh, that he ſhould be continued

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Subah Naib of this province as long as he chofe to be ſo; and that the Colonel conſtantly oppoſed every attempt of Meer Jaffier, or the Chuta Nabob to remove him. This engagement ſhould ſurely hold equally good againſt Coſſim Ally Cawn, as being prior to any you have concluded with him. Thus far juſtice pleads in behalf of Ramnarrain, and it is certainly good policy to ſupport the weight and influence of a perſon known to be ſo attached to the Engliſh intereſt, in order to counterbalance the Nabob, who, as far as I can judge, makes a point to take all power from out of the hands of thoſe whom he finds to favour or be favoured by the Engliſh. Of this I have ſeen more inſtances than one; and he is now giving a freſh proof of it in the caſe of Roy Shitabroy, whom he is about to diſpoſſeſs of his Jacquiers, though he deſerves particular conſideration, both from the Nabob and us, on account of the zeal and aſſiduity with which he ſerved both, in the tranſactions with the Shahzadah.

I am directed, gentlemen, by your letter under date the 9th of February, to protect Ramnarrain againſt all violence and injuſtice that may be offered againſt his perſon, honour, or fortune. If you do not mean to include in theſe the continuance of the Subahdarree to him, it will be impoſſible for me to comply with your directions; and the moment that all power is taken from himſelf, he will be reduced to the neceſſity of ſeeking an aſylum elſewhere, from the opreſſions of the Nabob.

Signed

JOHN CARNAC.

No. 15.

Major Carnac's Letter to Governor and Council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Received a letter laſt night of a very extraordinary nature indeed, from Rajabullub, incloſed under cover to Mr. Luſhington: The purport of his letter to me, was to beg I would aſſiſt him with my intereſt to procure him the Naibat of this province in the room of Ramnarrain; and his letter to Mr. Luſhington was to engage him to intercede with me to that purpoſe—with the letters were two promiſſory notes under his ſeal, one for fifty thouſand rupees to myſelf, the other for twenty-two thouſand rupees to Mr. Luſhington. We have both wrote to him in the terms his inſolence deſerves, and it gives me the utmoſt concern to find, that any man of the country ſhould dare entertain the thought, that an Engliſhman was to be influenced by a bribe.—You have not been pleaſed, Gentlemen, to allow me to have any thing to ſay or do with regard to Ramnarrain; but if it depended on me, I declare no conſideration whatever ſhould induce me to give my conſent to removing a man, whom we are bound to maintain by engagements prior to, and conſequently more obligatory than, any we have ſince entered into with Coſſim Ally Cawn. I have had hints before, with regard to this unfortunate Gentoo, to which if I would have liſtened, I might probably have turned my campaign to pretty good account; but indifferent as my circumſtances are, I thank God I ſcorn enlarging them by any means that would not ſtand the moſt public inſpection.

I have thought it my duty, Gentlemen, to acquaint you with this affair; and now ſubmit it to your conſideration, whether any good can be expected from a government, the head whereof has been detected in a moſt infamous forgery, and whoſe preſent principal favourite is capable of offering ſo barefaced a bribe.

Signed

Saſaram, 16 June, 1761. JOHN CARNAC.

No. 16.

Preſident's Minute.

20th of July, 1761.

THE preſident obſerves, that as Major Carnac has nothing to do but to obey the orders of the board, and has no right to queſtion or diſpute upon them, his letter of the 7th inſtant will require no Anſwer.

It ſeems however by the tenor of many of the Major's letters, and this in particular, that he thinks himſelf the higher power, and the board accountable to him; upon this principle, after quoting the former orders of the ſelect Committee in favour of Ramnarrain, dated the 9th February and 21ſt April, he proceeds to demand, Pray how are theſe reconcileable to the inſtructions addreſſed the 26th June to Mr. M'Gwire?

Although

Although the board might do themſelves juſtice upon an officer who thus forgets the reſpect due to them, yet we chuſe rather to refer it to the determination of our honourable maſters, to whom it ſhall at the ſame time be made appear, that thoſe orders in Ramnarrain's favour, are now the ſtrongeſt judgments that can be produced againſt him, as they are inconteſtable proofs of our deſire to protect him, although the engagements which have been ſo much talked of are no where to be met with :—It ſhall be proved alſo, that thoſe who profeſs the greateſt friendſhip for Ramnarrain, and who have permitted if not encouraged him in refuſing or evading for five months together to render any account of his adminiſtration, are in effect his greateſt enemies, by putting it out of our power to protect him longer in ſo ſhameful an injuſtice, in which he has already been upheld until he had well near carried his point, that of bringing the Nabob to ruin by a diſgraceful reſidence at Patna at an immoderate expence, without any income from the province :——This it is imagined will hardly be ſaid to be the intent of the ſuppoſed engagements; and therefore if any have made Ramnarrain believe the meaning of them would be ſo far ſtretched, it is they that are the cauſe of his tears, and it is they that muſt anſwer for his unhappy death, if he ſhould deſtroy himſelf, as Major Carnac ſeems to apprehend :——It is however more probable that he will not prove quite ſo deſperate; and that when he is convinced he is not independent of the Souba of Moorſhedabad, he will do what he ought to have done five months ago, that is, render to the Nabob an account of his adminiſtration; and in ſuch caſe he will be treated better than he pretends to expect, better a great deal than he deſerves.

He has yet hopes that Major Carnac may keep the command of the army: A delay of twenty days, and Colonel Coote's coming down to Calcutta, might produce freſh orders: A man of Ramnarrain's diſpoſition will conſtrue ſuch a poſſibility into a certainty, and while he can hope for ſuch a protector at the head of our army, he will continue to think he has a right to an unlimited protection, and continue to evade rendering the Nabob any accounts.

Major Carnac declares himſelf very freely on this occaſion, and gives at the ſame time a freſh inſtance of the reſpect he has for our authority—This paſſage of his letter of the 7th inſtant is worthy the obſervation of the board, as well as of our honourable maſters, who ſeldom write to their preſidents and councils with ſo great an air of ſuperiority.

" I eſteem myſelf extremely happy in being removed from the command of the army, " as I could not have ſuffered it, while I was at the head thereof, to be employed " on the purpoſes for which I find it is intended, without a direct breach of the de- " claration I have formerly made to you in regard to Ramnarrain."

If more inſtances of a like nature are wanting, they may be ſeen in many of the major's letters, particularly in one to the ſelect Committee, dated the 16th June 1761: —His own opinion and declaration ſhall be the rule of his actions, and ſhall ſuperſede the orders of the board :—If our declarations had merited a part of his attention, Ramnarrain would not have been deceived ſo long :—The repeated orders of the ſelect Committee for obliging him to ſettle accounts with the Nabob, ſhew, that it was never our intention to ſcreen him from that juſt demand: The firſt of thoſe orders was in a letter to the major ſo long ago as the . It is true we did not fix a day for Ramnarrain's rendering his accounts, which is a proof of the regard the board have ſhewn him, and of the moderation with which they have acted throughout the whole affair.

Week after week we expected to hear that the accounts had been laid before the Nabob; inſtead of that, excuſe came upon excuſe. At length on the 17th of May we ſent the colonel particular directions in what manner to have the account ſettled; That Ramnarrain ſhould be regarded as the deputy of the government of Moorſhedabad, that he ſhould give the Nabob a faithful account of the outſtanding balances, and the Nabob ſend his own people to collect them :—Who could have imagined, that after this, freſh evaſions would be admitted for two months more, notwithſtanding the Nabob's intreaties and repreſentations of the ruin in which he muſt ſoon be involved by his uſeleſs expences?

The preſident wrote more than once to Ramnarrain, in conſequence of the reſolutions of the ſelect Committee, that our protection would depend on his rendering a juſt account to the Nabob; but he is lately adviſed by Mr. M'Gwire, that Ramnarrain, inſtead of collecting the revenues in a regular manner, has taken or rather accepted from the Zemindars large ſums by way of preſents, which not being brought to account make their balances appear much larger than they really are, and his own as much leſs :—An unwillingneſs to confeſs this fraudulent attempt ſeems to be the true cauſe of his ſeeking ſo many ſhifts and evaſions.

Much more ſhall be ſaid on this ſubject hereafter, in order to prove to our honourable maſters, that the reſolutions lately taken by the board (or as Major Carnac politely expreſſes it, the buſineſs that is likely to be carried on) were abſolutely neceſſary for preſerving the preſent tranquility, for maintaining the conſtitution of the government of theſe provinces, and fulfilling on our part the treaty ſubſiſting between the Company and the Nabob, as he has ſo faithfully done on his.

RAMNARRAIN's

RAMNARRAIN's computed ACCOUNT of Three Years Government of the PATNA PROVINCE, conformable to his Agreement.

Dr.	Rupees.	Cr.	Rupees.
To the Bengal Subah each Year Three Lacks	9,00000	By ſuppoſed produce of the Province of Patna each Year 40 Lacks	120,00000
To Ditto for Moratta Chout or Dillie 10 Lacks	30,00000		
To the Jagheerdars 12 Lacks	36,00000		
To the Maintenance of the Troops agreed on 11½ Lacks	34,50000	Number of Troops, viz.	
	109,50000		
		Horſe 3000 at 25	75,000
To Profit and Loſs, which Ramnarrain would have gained	10,50000	Foot 4000 at 4	16,000
		Tope Connah 700 at 3	2,100
	120,00000		93,100 per Month.

No. 17.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

WE have received your honour, &c. council's favours of the 4th inſtant, incloſing liſt of goods to be provided at this factory, which we ſhall endeavour to comply with as nearly as poſſible.

We muſt beg leave to obſerve to your honour, &c. that, within theſe few days, every boat which we have ſent out of the river, hath been ſtopped at the different Chowkeys. Notwithſtanding they have the Chief's Duſtuck, our Gomaſtahs and people are confined, and uſed ill, and a very exorbitant duty demanded, and our ſervants in general greatly inſulted all over the country. Upon our ſending to ſome of theſe places, to inquire the reaſon of this extraordinary behaviour, anſwer was given, That they had orders from the Nabob to ſtop and levy duties from every Engliſh boat that paſſed, and on no account to let them go free, as the Engliſh Duſtuck was now of no conſequence in the country; and for this purpoſe the force at every Chowkey is augmented. This has occaſioned an entire ſtoppage to our trade, greatly to the detriment of our private fortunes, as we have now large quantities of goods detained at the different Chowkeys, which we cannot get releaſed, unleſs we ſubmit to pay the extravagant cuſtom they require; and, were we to do that, our boats are liable to be ſtopped at the very next Chowkey, and the ſame duty again demanded. Of theſe circumſtances we think it neceſſary to inform your honour, &c. and hope ſpeedy meaſures will be taken to procure us redreſs. We are under daily apprehenſions, that a cuſtom will be demanded on our cloth purchaſes, which muſt be of great prejudice to our honourable employers.

We are, with great Reſpect, Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

Luckypore, October 4th, 1762.

WM. BILLERS.
SAM. MIDDLETON.

No. 18, 19.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart Eſquire, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

TO prevent any blame being thrown hereafter on us, for the deficiency of our inveſtment, we are now to inform you, That at Johannabad, the principal cloth aurung, our Gomaſtahs, Delolls, &c. have been peremptorily ordered to deſiſt from purchaſing, and to quit the place. Upon their noncompliance, they have been threatened and abuſed in the moſt vile and groſs terms, and the waſhermen employed in whitening our cloths have been actually beat, and peons put on them to prevent their going on in their buſineſs.

Rajah Nobut Roy (to whom the Chief has twice complained of theſe proceedings) declares, that the perſon (Peru Roy) who thus inſults us, and impedes the Company's buſineſs, is independent of him, ſo that it would ſeem he is ſent by the Nabob merely for this purpoſe.

If ſuch inſolence is ſuffered to paſs unnoticed, we can have no hopes of compleating our inveſtment; for who will ſerve us, whilſt they thereby ſubject themſelves to ſuch ſevere and ignominous treatment from the country Government.

For the carrying on the Company's buſineſs 'tis evident, we muſt be obliged to repel force by force, and ſhall do ſo, unleſs we receive your honour, &c. orders to the contrary.

We are, Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

Patna, the 7th October, 1762. W. ELLIS.

No. 20, 21.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

WE think it our duty to inform you, that the outrages committed in theſe parts by the Government people, for this month paſt, have arrived to ſuch a height, as to put almoſt a total ſtop to our buſineſs. At every Chowkey our boats are ſtopped, the people inſulted, and the flag uſed with the utmoſt and moſt groſs contempt. Our advices from Syblet give us the ſame intelligence; further adding, that Muchulaws have been taken from many inhabitants, prohibiting them, on no account to have any connections with the Engliſh. As this ſpirit of inſolence increaſes to a very ſurpriſing degree, and we have daily the mortification to hear of repeated inſults and violences offered to our privileges, we are under an apprehenſion, that the Company's buſineſs will, in a few days, ſhare the ſame fate as all private has. To prevent and remedy theſe eviis, we muſt depend on the meaſures your honour, &c. council may take in conſequence of this information.

As appearances are ſo very unpromiſing, we have wrote to the gentlemen of Chittigong for a reinforcement of a company of Seapoys, which ſhall be again returned them, when affairs begin to clear up.

We are, with reſpect, Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your moſt obedient Servants,

Dacca, the 8th October, 1762. JOHN CARTIER, THOMAS FRENCH.

P. S. Since concluding this letter, I am informed, that eight boats loaded with the Company's chunam, with my duſtuck, are ſtopped at a place called Jafferawbuze, near Ruttangunge, and the Buxuries on the ſame are plundered and ill uſed. The Manjus of the boats are returned from that place, and gave me this intelligence.

JOHN CARTIER.

No. 22.

From the Governor and Council, to William Ellis, Eſquire, Chief at Patna.

Sir,

THIS inſtant we have received your letter of the 7th; and incloſe a letter from the Preſident to the Nabob, on the ſubject of your complaint, and hope it will be effectual in removing all interruption in the Company's buſineſs. — But, at all events, as we have it ſufficiently in our power to procure ſatisfaction for any injury that may be done to the intereſts of our employers, you are on no account to make uſe of force, without our expreſs directions.

You

You do not mention, in your letter, that you made any application to the Nabob to put a ſtop to the difficulties you repreſent, and which certainly you ought to have done, when you was informed, that the perſon you complain of was independant of the Naib of Patna; at leaſt, it ſhould have occurred to you, that ſuch application was neceſſary, before you ſhould propoſe to make uſe of force.

Fort William
16th October, 1762.

We are, Sir,
Your moſt obedient Servants.

No. 23.

To John Cartier, Eſquire, Chief, &c. Council at Dacca.

Gentlemen,

WE have received your letters of the 2d and 8th inſtant.

In anſwer to your laſt letter, relative to the diſpute between your Gomaſtahs and the government people, we muſt needs ſay, that by the information we receive from the incloſed copies of letters delivered in by the preſident, there is reaſon to fear your Gomaſtahs and agents have made uſe of very unwarrantable practices in their trade, and perhaps your diſputes with the government's people, and the interruptions you complain of, have been owing to that cauſe; but as we are always able and willing, when the neceſſity of circumſtances may require it, to procure your redreſs for any injuries you may ſuffer in your trade, or otherways, we direct that you forbear, in ſuch caſes, making uſe of force without our permiſſion and orders; and therefore deſire you will return to Chittagong immediately the company of Seapoys which you've wrote for from thence; and if any complaints of interruptions in your buſineſs are hereafter made by your Gomaſtahs, let Mr. Cartier ſend a perſon to enquire into the truth of the affair, with a letter to the proper officer of the government, to deſire that he will put a ſtop to ſuch obſtructions.

Incloſed are letters from the preſident to Jeſerat Cawn, the Naib, and Mahomed Aly, the collector of the revenues, which, we hope, will prevent any further diſorders, at leaſt until the preſident can make the neceſſary regulations in concert with the Nabob.

The abovementioned copies of letters we have forwarded to you for your information and reply, in caſe there ſhould be any facts in them miſrepreſented. And we deſire you will ſend, on your parts, a particular ſtate of your complaints to the preſident, who will take the proper meaſures to obtain ſatisfaction and indemnification for all loſſes and damages. You will likewiſe take effectual care, that none of your Gomaſtahs or agents do in future uſe any kind of force or authority in carrying on your trade, leſt the diſputes occaſioned by ſuch practices ſhould in the end affect the Company's buſineſs.—Neither muſt your Gomaſtahs be ſuffered to ſet themſelves up as magiſtrates in the country, in hearing diſputes between the inhabitants, impoſing fines, &c. &c.

The Court of Directors have this year ſent out a gentleman, named Mr. Delaporte, to aſſiſt in regulating and improving their cloth inveſtment; and he having declared to us at the board, that he thinks he can be of the greateſt uſe at your factory, in ſorting and packing the variety of mulmulls and doreas, we have directed him to proceed thither accordingly with all convenient expedition. And we deſire you will give to each other ſuch mutual advice and aſſiſtance, as may moſt tend to the benefit of our honourable employers.

It may be proper to remind you, that the time limited for Mr. Chevalier's coming to Calcutta is expired.

Fort William,
18th October, 1762.

We are, Gentlemen, your moſt obedient Servants.

No. 24.

To William Billiers, Eſquire, Chief, and Mr. Samuel Middleton, at Luckypore.

Gentlemen,

AS we learn by our letters from the gentlemen at Dacca, that many diſputes have lately happened between their Gomaſtahs and the government's people in the courſe of their trade, we have thought it neceſſary to lay the following down as a ſtanding rule, which you will pleaſe to obſerve, in caſe any diſputes of the like nature ſhould occur with you.

If any complaints of interruptions in your buſineſs are hereafter made by your Gomaſtahs, let Mr. Billers ſend a perſon to enquire into the truth of the affair, with a letter to the proper officer of the government, to deſire he will put a ſtop to ſuch obſtructions: we are hopeful this will have the deſired effect, at leaſt until the preſident can make the neceſſary reſolutions in concert with the Nabob; and in the mean time you are not, and likewiſe take effectual

care

care that none of your Gomaſtahs or agents do in future uſe any kind of force or authority in carrying on your trade, leſt the diſputes occaſioned by ſuch practices ſhould in the end affect the Company's buſineſs: neither muſt your Gomaſtahs be ſuffered to ſet themſelves up as magiſtrates in the country in hearing diſputes between the inhabitants, impoſing fines, &c. &c.

Fort William,
18th October 1762.

We are Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient Servants.

No. 25.

To William Billers, Eſquire, Chief, and Mr. Samuel Middleton, at Luckypore.

Gentlemen,

WE have received your letter of the 14th inſtant.

In anſwer to which we muſt refer you to ours of the 18th, for directions how to regulate yourſelves regarding the obſtructions you complain of—till ſuch time as the preſident can arrive with the Nabob, and enquire into the cauſe of theſe interruptions, and ſettle a ſolid plan for the future ſafety and freedom of our trade.

In the mean time, as Mr. Billers has acquainted the preſident that you have always paid the Shabunder duties, but that now freſh cuſtoms are demanded, we deſire to know what the amount of the Shabunder duties are, and the particulars of theſe freſh cuſtoms which are now levied, that the preſident may guide himſelf thereby in ſettling with the Nabob.

Fort William,
26th October, 1762.

We are, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient Servants.

No. 26.

Tranſlation of a letter from the Nabob to the Governor, dated 12th Rebbee o'Sannee (1ſt November) received 8th November 1762.

I Have received with great pleaſure, your friendly letter. You write that you learn from Mr. Ellis, the chief of the factory at Patna, that cloths have been provided for many years at the Aurung of Ichanabad, for the Company; now Perva Roy, the Aumil of that place, obſtructs the weavers in providing the cloths; and whenever they are made hinders the waſhermen from dreſſing and waſhing them, to the great prejudice of the Company's Gomaſtahs, and to aſſiſt them on every occaſion.—Sir, wherever that Gentleman has an opportunity, he fails not to make complaints of his buſineſs. As he has found my officers in no inſtance faulty, he has wrote to you the impertinencies and complaints of the waſhermen: You well know, Sir, that the waſhermen pay no duties, and that the Aumils have no authority to interrupt them, or prevent their waſhing and dreſſing the cloths: Was this affair really true, he would have informed Rajah Nobitroy of it, and he would immediately have wrote to the Aumil about it; but as it is altogether without foundation, he choſe to make a falſe complaint to you. Do you yourſelf, Sir, conſider this affair: Nevertheleſs I have ſent ſtrict orders to the Rajah, to write to the Aumil, that he on no account obſtruct the currency of the Company's buſineſs; and that on application from the Gomaſtahs of the factory, he afford them due aid and aſſiſtance.

No. 27.

To Peter Amyatt, Eſquire, and the reſt of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Find that the Interruptions the Gentlemen at Chittagong, Dacca, and Luckypore, have met with for ſome weeks paſt are owing to the bad diſpoſition of Mahomid Aly, the perſon laſt appointed by the Nabob to collect the rents of that part of the country. Syed Mahomed Cawn, the Deputy Governor of Muxadabad, expreſſes as much reſentment againſt that man as we do ourſelves, and aſſures me that he has repreſented him in ſuch a light to the Nabob, that he is perſuaded he will immediately be diſmiſſed from his office: this is a point I ſhall urge to the Nabob, if it is not done before I arrive at Mangein; and further that he be puniſhed for his inſolence, and obliged to make ſatisfaction for all loſſes which may have been incurred by the delays he has occaſioned. In the mean time I have the honour to tranſmit you four orders from Syed Mahomed Cawn to the ſaid collector, warning him of the bad

bad conſequences of his preſent conduct, and charging him not to obſtruct the buſineſs of our factories; I ſend likewiſe one from myſelf. Theſe, forwarded to the reſpective factories, will, I hope, remove all obſtructions; and on the other hand, Syed Mahomed Cawn deſires that our Gentlemen will take all poſſible care to prevent their Gomaſtahs and Agents from interfering in the buſineſs of the government, or uſing force in buying or ſelling

I have not yet the Nabob's anſwer concerning the diſputes between the uncle and nephew for the Zemindary of Baboopoor: As ſoon as I receive it I ſhall forward it to you, that you may give the neceſſary directions to the Chief, &c. at Luckypore.

The anſwer I have received from the Nabob to Mr. Ellis's complaint I now incloſe with a tranſlation.—I think it would be proper to ſend a copy to that gentleman, with directions to apply to the Naib at Patna, if in future he ſhould meet with any interruptions in his buſineſs; and if the Naib either refuſes, or has not authority to remove them, then to apply to the Nabob himſelf, from whom if he does not obtain ſuch redreſs and aſſiſtance as the caſe may require, then to make his repreſentation to the board with copies of his letters to the government, and the anſwers received; by this we ſhall be ſaved the trouble of hearing complaints, except in caſes where our interpoſition becomes really neceſſary.

I ſhall ſet out from hence for Mongeir the 11th.

I have the Honour to be, with great Eſteem,

Coſſimbuzar,
the 9th November 1762.

Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient, and moſt
Humble Servant,

HENRY VANSITTART.

No. 28.

From the Governor and Council, to John Cartier, Eſquire, Chief, &c. Council at Dacca.

Gentlemen,

WE have juſt received a letter from the preſident at Coſſimbuzar, acquainting us that he underſtands, from the converſation he has had with Syed Mahomed Khan, that the interruptions to the buſineſs at your factory, and thoſe of Luckypore and Chittagong, have been owing entirely to the bad diſpoſition of Mahomed Aly; therefore the preſident aſſures, that diſmiſſion from his employ is a point he ſhall urge to the Nabob whenever he arrives at Mongheer; and further inſiſt that he be puniſhed for his inſolence, and obliged to make ſatisfaction for all loſſes which may have been incurred by the delays he has occaſioned.

In the mean time the preſident has tranſmitted us four orders from Syed Mahomed Khan, and one from himſelf to the ſaid Mahomed Aly, warning him of the bad conſequence of his preſent conduct, and charging him not to obſtruct the buſineſs of our factories: The ſame we now forward you, incloſed to deliver to the collector, and hope they will have the effect of removing all obſtructions.

You will pleaſe immediately to adviſe the gentlemen at Luckypore and Chittagong of the receipt and tenor of theſe orders; and again, when you are ſenſible of the effect they may have on Mahomed Aly's conduct, of which you will likewiſe pleaſe to adviſe us.

Fort William,
11th November 1762.

We are, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient Servants.

No. 29.

To Peter Amyatt, Eſquire, and the reſt of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Arrived yeſterday at the quarters prepared for me by the Nabob, about two miles from the fort of Mungeer; his uncle, Terab Aly Cawn, met me at Goorgutty, and the Nabob himſelf about four miles from the fort. This morning I went with Mr. Haſtings, and all the reſt of the gentlemen, to the fort to return his viſit.

I have been favoured with your letter of the 15th of November: I have not as yet entered upon any buſineſs with the Nabob, but I perceive he has many complaints to make againſt the Company's dependents in different parts of the country, as we have againſt his: I have, however, found him in the diſpoſition I wiſhed and expected, very deſirous of having our reſpective pretenſions equitably diſcuſſed, and ſuch regulations made as may prevent, as far as poſſible,

any diſputes between our people and his in future. He is as ſenſible as we are, that in ſo extenſive a connection, complaints will frequently be received on both ſides, but he looks upon ſuch accidents as too trivial to affect the friendſhip between him and the Company; and deſires only, that on all ſuch occaſions time may be taken to make a candid and diſpaſſionate enquiry; promiſing, on his part, to puniſh with ſeverity any of his people who ſhall be found guilty of oppreſſion, or want of reſpect towards the Company's dependants; and expecting the ſame Juſtice from us.

I ſhall proceed with Mr. Haſtings's aſſiſtance and concurrence, in ſuch inquiries as ſhall be neceſſary on the ſubject of the complaints now in queſtion; and in eſtabliſhing ſuch rules between the Nabob and us as may prevent them for the future.

Mungeer, the
1ſt December, 1762.

I am, with Eſteem, Gentlemen.
Your moſt obedient humble Servant,

HENRY VANSITTART.

No. 30. and 31.

To Peter Amyatt, Eſquire, and the reſt of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

INCLOSED I ſend for your peruſal two Perſian letters, delivered to me by the Nabob, with their tranſlations.

One from Mr. Cartier to Mahomed Aly, the collector of the Dacca diſtricts, which, if I underſtood it right (for the expreſſions are rather obſcure) is wrote in a very improper ſtyle, as it tends to encourage and promote that evil which we have taken ſo much pains to remedy; I mean a jealouſy and diſtruſt between us and the Nabob: I requeſt you will be pleaſed to call on Mr. Cartier for an explanation of his meaning, and give him ſuch a caution on the occaſion as to you ſhall ſeem neceſſary.

The other, from Meſſrs. Johnſton, Hay, and Bolts, to Shyr Aly Cawn, Fouzedar of Purnea, indorſed by Mr. Bolts in Engliſh, and written, I imagine, by him, in the name of the partnerſhip. Whoever reads this letter muſt naturally conclude no other Government ſubſiſted among us; ſince it was left to Mr. Bolts to aſſert the privileges of the Firmaun, and vindicate the name of the Engliſh, the freedom of the Company's Duſtuck: Such notions propagated in the country muſt needs be prejudicial to the Company's affairs, by weakening their Government; and it is for this reaſon the Company have forbid letters to be written to the country Government by any perſon, excepting the preſident, or with his approbation. I never refuſed to apply for redreſs for any grievance that the Gentlemen in the ſervice, and all other inhabitants of the ſettlement have applied to me about, and in caſe of my illneſs or abſence Mr. Amyatt was ready to give them the ſame aſſiſtance: I muſt therefore recommend to you to inflict ſuch cenſure or puniſhment on Mr. Bolts as ſhall ſeem to you neceſſary for preventing ſuch irregulations in future: I could wiſh alſo that it were made a rule for the chiefs of the ſubordinate factories, and all others, when they write letters to the country Government, to ſign them, that in caſe of their being produced afterwards they may be known to be authentic.

I have the pleaſure to acquaint you, that, to this time there is no appearance of the tranquility of theſe provinces being diſturbed by any enemies: Shaw Allum and Shujah Dowla remain near Correginabad, and ſeem to have nothing in view but maintaining the poſſeſſion of thoſe conqueſts they have made laſt year upon the Marattas near the banks of the Jurarma. The Rohellas, Tants, and other Chiefs about Delly, divided as they are upon other points, agree in oppoſing Shujah Dowla, which, no doubt is the reaſon he does not attempt to advance further towards the capital, and which occaſioned him to apply to the Nabob and aſk for an aſſiſtance of forces. The Nabob does not judge it adviſeable to comply with this application, nor in any manner to engage in the conteſt, which he ſays would be attended with a great expence and a riſk of involving himſelf in trouble. I think this advice is alſo moſt ſuitable to the circumſtances of the Company's affairs: Our chief object ſhould be to preſerve what we now hold in tranquility; and indeed the continual reduction of our forces, by caſualties, without any recruits, puts it out of our power to ſpare any conſiderable detachment. The Nabob keeps about four thouſand horſes in the Barigepore country to guard that frontier, and intends, about a month hence, to march to Betea to compleat the regulation of that diſtrict, and with ſome view to the reduction of the adjoining province of Napante.

I ſhall wait here till major Adams's arrival, in order to introduce him to the Nabob; after which I purpoſe to viſit the Puhia factory, and then return to Calcutta

Mungeer,
15th Dec. 1762.

I am, with eſteem, Gentlemen,
Your moſt humble Servant,
HENRY VANSITTART.

No. 32.

To Peter Amyatt, Eſquire, and the reſt of the Gentlemen of the Council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

WE have had many conferences with the Nabob, on the ſubject of the late complaints which appear to have been chiefly occaſioned by the private inland trade, or the trade from place to place, in the country. He enlarged much on the licentiouſneſs and oppreſſions exerciſed by our Gomaſtahs, eſpecially in thoſe diſtant parts of the province where his government is leſs eſtabliſhed, and too remote for our enquiries into their behaviour. He argued, that the trade of thoſe parts conſiſted chiefly in articles produced and ſold in the country, from which former Nabobs had always reſtrained all Europeans, and to which he did not conceive that we would claim any right for our Firmaun.

We agree with the Nabob in opinion, that the true intent and natural meaning of the Firmaun granted to the Company was to give to them and their ſervants a free trade, clear of all cuſtoms, in all articles of commerce to be imported or exported by ſhipping: From ſuch commerce a mutual benefit is derived to our country and to this; but the trade from place to place in the country, in ſalt, beetle-nut, tobacco, and other commodities produced here, bringing no general benefit to the country, but to particulars only, who had the ſame in their hands, we do not think the Firmaun can be underſtood to include them within the privilege of the Duſtuck, or to grant us a right to trade therein, on any other footing than the natives themſelves; that is, paying the uſual cuſtoms to the government; for if we had a right therein to trade cuſtom-free, and the natives muſt pay, it follows, no one but ourſelves could carry on any trade, which we cannot ſuppoſe the Firmaun intended.

It is fact that the Nabobs of theſe provinces did formerly reſtrain the Europeans from carrying on this trade upon any footing, and by farming out the ſeveral articles to particular merchants, draw to themſelves a conſiderable revenue.

After the defeat and death of Seraja Dowla, and the eſtabliſhment of Jaffier Aly Cawn in the Subahſhip, by the aſſiſtance of the Engliſh, we began to take a ſhare of this trade, which ſhare has been from day to day increaſing. It has, however always been a ſubject of diſpute with the country government, our right never having been admitted by them, nor regularly claimed and eſtabliſhed by us; and the government's duties have generally been paid.

But not content with this, the Engliſh Gomaſtahs, in different parts, have lately begun to inſiſt upon this trade as a Firmaun privilege, equally with the foreign trade, and refuſed to pay any cuſtoms: The government's people, on their part, demanded the cuſtoms, and upon the refuſal ſtopped the goods; and this conteſt has been the occaſion of many of the complaints received by us and by the Nabob.

As on one hand, we do not ſee any reaſon why the Engliſh gentlemen, and other inhabitants of Calcutta and the ſubordinate factories, ſhould carry on the inland trade with the Company's Duſtuck, or in any reſpect more advantageouſly than the country merchants, ſo, on the other hand, we think it would be a great hardſhip, if we and all belonging to us were not admitted upon an equality with the merchants and inhabitants of other parts of Bengal, and ſuffered to trade on equal terms in all commodities, and in all places, provided our agents and Gomaſtahs do not ſet up for magiſtrates in the country, and carry on their buſineſs by force and oppreſſion: practices of this ſort in many of the Engliſh agents and Gomaſtahs, and an abuſe on the part of the Nabob's officers, of the power put into their hands for the reſtraint of ſuch practices, have been further cauſes of the many complaints lately received.

In theſe ſentiments, the regulations we have propoſed to the Nabob for fixing the manner of carrying on this trade in future, and preventing any diſputes between his officers and our agents and Gomaſtahs, are as follows:

1 That for all trade imported or exported by ſhipping, the Company's Duſtuck ſhall be granted; and it ſhall paſs unmoleſted and free of cuſtom as uſual.

2. For all trade from one place to another, in commodities produced in the country, as ſalt, beetle-nut, tobacco, &c. the Company's Duſtuck ſhall not be granted, but it ſhall go with the Duſtuck of the Buckſhundar, or other officer of the country government.

3. That at the Time of taking out the ſaid Duſtuck, and before the diſpatch of the goods, the duties ſhall be paid according to the rates, which ſhall be particularly ſettled and annexed to this agreement.

4. That the ſaid duties ſo to be paid before exportation ſhall be the whole that are to be paid; ſo that after the diſpatch of the goods nothing ſhall be paid at any Chokies in the road, nor at the place of ſale.

5. Thus all goods being furniſhed, either with the Company's Duſtuck, or that of the government, ſhall meet with no obſtruction or delay.—The guards and Chokies in the road ſhall have nothing more to do than demand a ſight of the Duſtuck, unleſs they ſhall obſerve the boats

boats to be laden with a larger quantity of goods than are mentioned in the Duſtuck, or with other ſorts of goods than thoſe mentioned in the Duſtuck; in which caſe they are to give immediate notice to the neareſt Engliſh factory, as well as to the neareſt officer of the Government, that orders may be ſent to have a ſtrict examination, but they are not to detain them in the road.

6 If any one ſhould attempt to paſs goods without a Duſtuck, either from the government or the Company, or ſhall clandeſtinely procure a Company's Duſtuck, to paſs ſalt, beetle-nut, tobacco, or other produce of the country, from place to place for inland trade, ſuch goods ſhall be ſeized and confiſcated; the guards and Chokies in the road are to ſtop them, and give notice to the neareſt Engliſh factory, as well as the neareſt officer of the government.

7. If any perſon, not having a Duſtuck, ſhall attempt to paſs boats or goods clandeſtinely, under the cover of, and in company with other boats or goods, having a Duſtuck, ſuch boats or goods ſo attempted to be paſſed clandeſtinely ſhall be ſeized and confiſcated.

8. The Gomaſtahs in every place ſhall carry on their trade freely, and as merchants, and ſhall on no account uſe force in buying or ſelling: If any diſpute ariſes in the courſe of their buſineſs, they ſhall not attempt to redreſs themſelves, but ſhall make their complaints to the Fouzedar, or other officer of the government, and have the matter tried before him; in like manner, if any merchant or inhabitant ſhall be aggrieved by an Engliſh Gomaſtah, he ſhall make his complaint to the Fouzedar, or other officer of the government; and the Gomaſtah being duly ſummoned, ſhall appear before him to anſwer to the charge, and have the matter determined.

9. To deter the Fouzedar and the officers of the government from being guilty of any partiality, they ſhall be enjoined to tranſmit to the Nabob, copies of their proceedings upon all trials where Engliſh agents or Gomaſtahs are concerned, and likewiſe to give a copy to the agent or Gomaſtah, who, if he thinks himſelf aggrieved, may ſend the ſame to his principal, and he may make his complaint to the preſident, who, if the caſe requires it, will apply to the Nabob for redreſs: and when any Fouzedar, or other officer of the government, ſhall prove guilty of ſuch partiality, the Nabob ſhall puniſh him in the moſt exemplary manner.

We think it would be unreaſonable to deſire to carry on the inland trade upon any other footing than that of the merchants of the country; and that the attempting to carry it on free of cuſtoms, and with the Company's Duſtuck, would bring upon us an univerſal jealouſy and ill will, and in the end prejudice the Company's affairs as well as our own.—In the courſe of our conferences upon this ſubject, the Nabob obſerved, that if the Engliſh Gomaſtahs were permitted to trade in all parts and in all commodities cuſtom free, as many of them now pretend, they muſt of courſe draw all the trade into their hands, and his cuſtoms would be of ſo little value to him, that it would be much more for his intereſt to lay trade entirely open, and collect no cuſtoms from any perſon whatever upon any kind of merchandize; which would draw a number of merchants into his country, and encreaſe his revenues, by encouraging the cultivation and manufacture of a larger quantity of goods for ſale; at the ſame time that (he added) it would effectually cut off the principal ſubject of diſputes which had diſturbed the good underſtanding between us; an object he had more than any other at heart. This ſcheme we diſcouraged all in our power, as it would immediately render the Duſtuck uſeleſs, and prejudice our honourable maſters buſineſs by enhancing the number of purchaſers; and it is an argument why we ought readily to conſent to the regulation now propoſed, not to riſque hurting the Company's intereſt for our own private advantage.

The Nabob deſires that our orders may be repeated, That none of the Company's ſervants agents, Gomaſtahs, or other perſons employed by them, ſhall be permitted to hold offices under the country government, nor to purchaſe, rent or hold, lands, gunges, or markets, nor to lend money to the Zemindars or collectors; as all theſe are ſources of diſpute between the Company's people and the governments.

We have ſent to Mr. Helas the Nabob's orders for the free purchaſe of timber wanted for the new Fort; and the Nabob has expreſſed to Shyr Aly, the Fouzedar of that diſtrict, his higheſt diſpleaſure at the obſtructions he before laid in his way, and the ill treatment which the Engliſh Gomaſtahs in general complained of from him.

Incloſed we ſend the Nabob's orders to Mahomed Aly, the collector of the Dacca diſtricts, enjoining him to releaſe all boats that may be ſtopped by him, or any other perſon under his juriſdiction; to demand for cuſtoms nothing more than has hitherto been paid upon the inland trade of thoſe parts; and to refund all that may have been extorted beyond that: likewiſe another order to the ſame perſon, requiring him to tranſmit a more circumſtantial account of the diſpute between the uncle and the nephew, about the Zemindary of Baboopoor, and how it happened that three or four of our Seapoys were killed there; but as both in this affair and that of Tangepoor, dependant on Purnea, where one of Mr. Gray's Gomaſtahs was killed, a ſevere example ſeems highly neceſſary, we have agreed with the Nabob to ſend a perſon on our part along with one of his, to enquire upon the ſpot, and bring a full and impartial

impartial account of each of thoſe events; and the Nabob has promiſed to puniſh his people with the utmoſt ſeverity if they prove to be as guilty as they now appear. Mr. Haſtings will go to Tangepoor to finiſh that enquiry; and we deſire you will direct Mr. Billers to produce the neceſſary proofs to the perſon who may be appointed by the Nabob to enquire concerning the other affairs.

Mongeer,
15th December, 1762.

We are, with eſteem, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants.

Henry Vanſittart,
Warren Haſtings.

No. 33.

Tranſlation of a letter from Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Hay, and Bolts, to Meer Sheer Ally Cawn, the Fouzdar of Purnea, recorded on Fort William conſultations. December 27th 1762.

OUR Gomaſtah Ramchurn-Doſs, being gone into thoſe parts, meets with obſtructions from you in whatever buſineſs he undertakes; moreover, you have publiſhed a prohibition to this effect, That whoever ſhall have any dealing with the Engliſh, you will ſeize his houſe, and lay a fine upon him. In this manner have you prohibited the people under your juriſdiction. We were ſurprized at hearing of this affair; becauſe that the Royal Firmaun, which the Engliſh nation is poſſeſſed of, is violated by this proceeding; but the Engliſh will by no means ſuffer with patience their Firmaun to be broke through: we therefore expect that upon the receipt of this letter, you will take off the order you have given to the Ryotts; and in caſe of your not doing it, we will certainly write to the Nabob, in the name of the Engliſh, and ſend for ſuch an order from him that you ſhall reſtore, fully and entirely, whatever loſs the Engliſh have ſuſtained, or ſhall ſuſtain, by this obſtruction, and that you ſhall repent having thus interrupted our buſineſs, in deſpite of the Royal Firmaun. After reading this letter, we are perſuaded you will deſiſt from interrupting it, will act agreeable to the rules of friendſhip, and ſo that your amity may appear, and will by no means ſtop the Company's Duſtucks.

No. 34.

Extract of the Nabob's letter to Mahomed Ally, the Naib of Dacca.

THE governor writes to me that you interrupt his own Gomaſtah: notwithſtanding in the paper of regulations, there is no diſtinction of private and public, yet as the governor is my friend, I accordingly write to you, not to impede the Gomaſtah of his private trade, that may have with him either the governor's or Company's Duſtuck.

No. 35.

To Peter Amyatt, Eſquire, &c. council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

WE did ourſelves the honour to write to you yeſterday, and have ſince been ſurpriſed by the receipt of two papers (which come incloſed for your peruſal) from the Naib, and from Mahmud Ally of this place, who deſired to be informed what degree of regard we intend to pay the orders they contained; to which we replied, That we did not dare to acquieſce with the terms of thoſe papers, as the preſident and council of Calcutta, on whom alone it reſted to give ſanction to ſuch commands, had not thought proper to tranſmit us any ſuch inſtructions. We know not in what light you will look on theſe directions to the Naib of this place, but hope will approve the reply we made, and will pardon us the liberty of addreſſing a few lines on this ſubject. The immediate circulation of theſe articles throughout the country will be attended with very bad conſequences to the Company's inveſtment, and muſt intirely ruin moſt of us at this place, who on the faith of treaties or public indulgences have large concerns abroad, which never can be collected in, if the privileges, without any previous notice, be ſnatched from us. The protection of our Gomaſtahs and ſervants from the oppreſſion and juriſdiction of the Zemindars and their Cutcherries, has ever been found to be a liberty highly eſſential both to the honour and intereſts of our nation; and we apprehend the utility of it for carrying on every kind of buſineſs, but eſpecially the proviſion of cloth, is ſo well known to you, gentlemen, that it is needleſs for us to add more, as you will at once perceive the numberleſs vexations and interruptions we ſhall meet with, if the Zemindars have authority, on every ſlight diſpute, to ſummon and confine our Gomaſtahs whenever they think proper. The injunctions with reſpect to Duſtucks affects every article of commerce, except ſuch as are imported on ſhipping, Mr. Cartier being injoined not to give any one for any article that is the produce of Bengal, and to pay a duty of nine per cent. to the Nabob on every merchandize not brought in or ſent by ſea. This ſurely cannot be meant, but the

words ſeem too equivocal, not to make us wiſh to have your ſenſe of them, on ſo important a point. A duty once fixed, would ſcarce be a burden; but if, added to this, we are ſubjected to vexatious applications to the Nabob's officers for Duſtucks, it will be a grievance we ſhall indeed feel. The dignity and benefit of our Duſtucks are the chief badges of honour, or at leaſt, the intereſt we enjoy from our Phirmaund, and has been held in ſuch eſteem, as to ſecure our effects from thoſe depredations which the natives ſuffer, in paſſing their goods through the country; and if theſe new duties on all the products of the country are thought juſt, may not the Nabob be properly ſecured of them by the Shawbunder's receipts for the cuſtoms being always affixed to the back of every Duſtuck, previous to its being ſigned? This will ſurely aſcertain in the moſt ample form, the duties to the Nabob, and free us from the principal grievance we can feel from their increaſe. The prohibition with reſpect to Tofalls is a reſtraint not even put on the Moguls and natives; the liberty of erecting new ones, ſo far from being injurious to the Nabob, abſolutely enhances his cuſtoms, by clearing lands that would otherwiſe have been uninhabited; and the order to purchaſe every thing for ready money, amounts nearly to an excluſion from all ſuch branches of trade, as the venders will then impoſe on us whatever prices they judge proper.

With reſpect to Aſſam, we muſt beg leave to obſerve, that the Nabob, or his Phouſdar of Rang Mattee, can have no more right to regulate the terms of our commerce with the natives of that country, than with thoſe of China; all the power he exerts over our Gomaſtahs is arbitrary and oppreſſive; and neither juſtice or ancient cuſtoms can warrant ſuch abuſes, or regulate his officers in the collecting of taxes. Though the whole direction is now referred to his Droga Rangamatty, no duties have ever yet been paid on lacks, Muggadooties, and other goods brought from Aſſam: Thoſe goods may ſurely be eſteemed imports when they are brought into Bengal, and may be intitled to our Duſtucks.

All our privileges, all our fortunes, and future proſpects, depend upon the reſult of your deliberations on theſe points: And we hope, let what will be your ſentiments, you will be pleaſed to ſuſpend the execution of them, till our preſent concerns are collected in with our ancient indulgencies. No treaty of commerce in any country has been carried into execution, or freſh duties levied, without a previous declaration for as long a term as was adequate to the ſettlement of thoſe concerns that were to be influenced by ſuch new regulations; and we flatter ourſelves, that we ſhall not become objects of unexampled ſeverity on this occaſion. The trade of the ſervants has ever been thought intitled to your protection; and we hope, if particular branches are now to be given up, we ſhall ſtill be indulged with the influence of your authority and privilege of our Duſtucks, till we can finiſh our preſent engagements: If you refuſe us this requeſt, Gentlemen, you undo us at once, as the publication of theſe orders from Mungheer, with the ſtampt of your authority, will ſo affect our national credit and influence in the country, as muſt for ever diſable us from collecting in the large ſums we have ouſtanding.

If we have obtruded on the board more than is deemed fit, or preſumed in any part of this to adviſe where obedience was due, we crave your pardon, and ſhall be ready to pay the utmoſt reſpect to any orders tranſmitted by your board; being with great reſpect,

Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

JOHN CARTIER,
A. W. SENIOR,
R. LEYCESTER,
THO. FRENCH.

Dacca, 10th January, 1763,

P. S. We are juſt now informed, that Mahmud Ally has obliged the different Zemindars (in conſequence of theſe letters from Mungeer) to give Mokulkaws to have no further buſineſs with the Engliſh, or to allow of any to be tranſacted with them in their different Zemindaries. This, Gentlemen, in all probability, will bring on ſuch a ſcene of rapine and deſtruction to our properties, as may reduce us to the ſame diſtreſs as we were brought to in the memorable year fifty-ſix.

JOHN CARTIER,
A. W. SENIOR,
THO. FRENCH.

No. 36.

To Peter Amyatt, Esquire, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Have been favoured with your letter of the 27th December, with a copy of a letter from the director and Council at Chinsura, on the subject of the disputes between our factory at Patna and theirs, concerning the purchase of opium; also extract of a letter from our chief and council at Cossimbuzar, about the difficulty they meet with in exchanging the Calcutta siccas.

I had left Patna before your letter reached me; but as we had before received many complaints from the Dutch about the opium purchases, I made it my business to get all possible information on the subject, during my short stay at that place; particularly as Mr. Taillefort wrote me to request I would endeavour to put an end to those disputes. It has been frequently urged by the Dutch, that Mr. Ellis took obligations from the merchants and Picars, that they would not, under a penalty, sell opium to any but him; I asked the Dutch chief upon what he grounded this accusation, and whether he had ever seen such an obligation, or even a copy; to which he replied, that he had not, but that he had been so informed by his Agents. The Amuldar of Bahar having made a complaint of the like nature to the Naib, I asked the Amuldar, if he could produce such an obligation, or a copy; he answered, that a merchant of Bahar had made a complaint to him, that the English Gomastah had extorted a bond from him not to purchase opium (which had been his usual trade) for that he, the English Gomastah, was to receive the whole from the Picars; that he could therefore not pay customs as before to the government; at the same time producing a paper which he said was a copy of the bond, but did not deliver it to him.—It remained therefore a doubt whether this charge against the English Gomastah was a fact, or only a pretence of the merchant to evade paying the customs.—Mr. Ellis assured me, that he had forbid his Agents in the strictest manner from any such practices, and that he would severely punish the Bahar Gomastah, should the charge against him prove true; and I desired the Naib to send for the merchant and require him to prove what he declared to the Amuldar.

Although I had not time to trace the affair to the bottom, it is very certain that some abuses must have been practised, to the great detriment of this trade, by the persons employed in the provision of opium; for the English factory has provided this season scarce three hundred chests, and the Dutch only one hundred and fifty; whereas the two factories and the French used to purchase without difficulty near three thousand chests.

I conclude this subject with acquainting you, that I made an accommodation between the English and Dutch chiefs, for carrying on their opium purchases for the future, in concert and in the same manner as formerly; by which I hope all disputes will be prevented, and both be provided with larger quantities.

With respect to Mahomed Ally, the Dacca collector, I should not refuse a proposition so reasonable as what the Nabob made; that is, That he should have an opportunity of answering for himself. Inclosed I send you copies of his addresses to the Nabob, on the subject of the complaints against him.

Mirza Ally Reza is appointed Ameen to go and inquire upon the spot; and orders should be sent to the chiefs at Dacca, Chittigong, and Luckypore, to produce what proofs they can of the facts complained of to the said Ameen.

I can venture to assure you, the Nabob will not be backward in punishing Mahomed Aly, if he proves guilty. Toorutsing, the Amuldar of Tangepoor, being convicted of killing Mr. Gray's Gomastah, has received sentence to be hanged at the place where the murder was committed; and Shyr Ally, for endeavouring to screen him, and his ill behaviour to our Gomastahs in general, will be dismissed from his government of Purnea.

I observe what you mention concerning the inland trade in your letter to Mr. Hastings and me jointly; the Company's Dustuck never having been granted for those articles of trade by any former governor, neither shall I think myself empowered to grant them without the orders of our honourable masters; and therefore, to prevent our being liable to have our goods stopt for duties at many different places, as is the case with the Company's merchants, I wished to have those duties made up in the most reasonable manner into one sum, to be paid at one place, before the dispatch of the goods; after getting what informations we could, I agreed with the Nabob that they should be rated at 9 per cent. upon the purchase price, which being paid before the dispatch of the goods, and the Dustuck of the country government taken, they should be liable to no further demands throughout the three provinces:—You will observe that is less than the Luckepour Gentlemen in their letter of the 6th November last, mention they have always paid upon salt and tobacco, which are the principal objects of this trade:—In my way

down

down I took an account from the agents of ſome Patna and Houghly merchants of what they had paid, and were liable to pay, for the ſalt under their charge; by which you will perceive that the ſiccary duties only, without reckoning the Duſtore taken at the ſeveral Chokeys, amounts by the loweſt of the ſeveral informations to more than 25 rupees per 100 maunds:—I have ſent a copy of this account to the Nabob, and recommended to free the merchants in general from ſuch a variety of demands, by receiving from them in like manner a reaſonable rate of cuſtoms in one place only.

I yeſterday ſent for the principal Shroffs of the city, and enquired of them why they refuſed to exchange the Calcutta Siccas, and as they are ſtruck with the name of Murſhedabad, how they could diſtinguiſh them from thoſe which are ſtruck in the Murſhedabad mint. They replied, that the ſtamps were not ſo well made at Calcutta, and that the rupees for the moſt part are too broad and thin, by which they could eaſily diſtinguiſh them:—I deſired Mr. Batſon to ſend for ſome; and upon examination found the obſervation of the Shroffs to be very true; however they agreed to receive them, and promiſed to do ſo in future. The Nabob's deputy was preſent, and aſſured me he would inforce it whenever Mr. Batſon may apply to him; but it is neceſſary that our Mintmaſter take all poſſible care to make our rupees equal in every reſpect to thoſe of Murſhedabad, and if poſſible ſo alike, that they may not be diſtinguiſhed one from the other.

Having received from Mr. Amyatt the news of the French Cruiſers in Balaſore Road, I ſhall ſet out from hence to-morrow morning, with relays of Bearers to Mirzapoor, from whence I ſhall proceed in a light boat to Calcutta; ſo that I ſhall poſſibly arrive as ſoon as this letter.

I left Major Adams at Patna, and he intends to return by the Pachaet Road.

I have the Honour to be with Eſteem,
Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble Servant,
HENRY VANSITTART.

Coſſimbuzar,
13th January, 1763.

No. 37.

Mr. Vanſittart's Remarks on Proceedings of the Board, on Conſultation 1 February 1763, Fort William.

I Have read with great ſurpriſe the minutes of your conſultation of the 17th ult. upon Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay's letter of the 14th, and upon the Dacca letter of the 10th, accompanied with my anſwer to the Nabob upon the ſubject of the ſuppoſed regulations for the private inland trade; I will endeavour to point out the wrong you have done me, and the injuſtice as well as the indecency of the reflections with which Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay's ſaid letter is filled; and I wonder it ſhould eſcape your cenſure, much more that they ſhould gain upon your approbation.

The honourable the court of directors, as well as their ſervants here, have always underſtood a diſtinction between the trade in articles imported, and to be exported by ſhipping, and the private inland trade; that is, the trade from place to place in the country, in commodities produced and conſumed in the country, of which ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco are the chief articles. For the former trade the Company's Duſtuck has always been granted, but the latter has been carried on with the Duſtuck of the country government, and their duties paid; but thoſe duties being different in different places, and even varied at the ſame place, according to the diſpoſition and authority of the Nabob's collector, and the degree with which the Engliſh Gomaſtah could back his refuſal, a fixed reſolution was thought neceſſary, to prevent numberleſs diſputes occaſioned by this commerce in different parts of the province. Our honourable maſters have expreſly ordered in more than one of their letters, that the trade in ſalt and beetle-nut ſhall not be carried on to the prejudice of the revenues of the country government; and yourſelves, gentlemen, in your letter of the 15th November, tranſmitted me a liſt of the Shawbunder duties, paid by the gentlemen at Luckypore upon ſalt and tobacco, in order to aſſiſt me in finally ſettling theſe matters with the Nabob upon a ſolid plan: Can that plan be ſolid where nothing is fixed; and where the Engliſh Gomaſtahs ſhall be under no controul, but, regarding themſelves far above the magiſtrates of the country where they reſide, take upon themſelves to decide not only their own diſputes with the merchants and inhabitants, but thoſe alſo of one merchant or inhabitant with another? Or is it poſſible the government can collect their due revenues in ſuch circumſtances?

The plan for carrying on the private inland trade, contained in my letter to the Nabob, is the ſame in ſubſtance as the articles which in my joint letter with Mr. Haſtings of the 15th December, we mentioned to have propoſed to the Nabob. It is ſuch a plan as ſeemed to me to be conformable to the Company's intentions in reſpect to that trade, moſt conſiſtent with the true rights and intereſts of their ſervants here, and with

common

common reaſon and equity; and I call on you, gentlemen, in the firſt place, to prove that I have aſſumed a right to which I was no ways authorized; that the regulations propoſed are diſhonourable to you as Engliſhmen, or tend to the ruin of all public or private trade; which are the terms in which you have been pleaſed to expreſs your opinion: And in the ſecond place, to form a plan yourſelves which ſhall be more conformable to the good purpoſes before mentioned; and without regard to which, I am perſuaded our honourable maſters will not give the ſanction of their approbation to this new trade. Form ſuch a plan, gentlemen, and I will ſubſcribe to you with pleaſure, and engage the Nabob will do ſo too.

For my own part, I think that the honour and dignity of our nation would be better maintained by a ſcrupulous and careful reſtraint of the Duſtuck, than by extending it beyond its uſual bounds; and putting our Gomaſtahs under ſome checks, than by ſuffering them to exerciſe an authority in the country every one according to the means put into his hands, and thereby bringing an odium upon the name of the Engliſh, by repeated violences done by the Engliſh.

The Dacca Gentlemen in their letter of the 10th, repreſent, that they ſhall ſuffer greatly if ſuch regulations take place. It is not as to the duty they complain, but the being obliged to apply to the Nabob's officers for Duſtucks, and having their Gomaſtahs and ſervants ſubjected to the juriſdiction of the Zemindars and their Cutcherries. The Gentlemen at Calcutta have never found any difficulty in getting the Houghly Duſtuck, for our ſalt to go up the country; nor have we ever thought it either inconvenient or diſhonourable to apply for it to the officers of the government: This is the only article we deal in here that falls under the deſcription of the inland trade: The Dacca Gentlemen either do not, or will not, underſtand that deſcription; they ſay the chief is enjoined by the governor's letter to the Nabob, not to give a Duſtuck for any article that is the produce of Bengal, and to pay a duty of 9 per cent. to the Nabob on every merchandize not brought in or ſent by ſea. The diſtinction mentioned in my letter to the Nabob is, that all goods imported, or for exportation by ſhipping, ſhall go as uſual with the Company's Duſtuck, and be ſubject to no kind of demands; and all goods, the produce of this country for inland trade, ſhall pay duties to the country government, and go with their Duſtuck. Now the principal articles of this inland trade are, as I have mentioned in all my letters to the board, ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, produced and bought in one part of this country, and ſent to other parts of the ſame country for ſale and conſumption; articles which before the troubles we were forbid to trade in, but which our influence ſince has enabled us to deal in, altho' with many objections from the country government, and frequent complaints from the country merchants, who uſed to live by that trade; however, it has never been regarded as a part of our Firmaun privilege, and we have been contented to carry it on with the Duſtuck of the country government, and paying their duties. The preſent regulation is intended only to give us a confirmed right to a benefit heretofore always diſputed, and upon terms which ſeem to me very reaſonable.

Now as to the Gomaſtahs, it is propoſed in my letters to the Nabob, that orders ſhall be given to forbid them injuring the country people or inhabitants, or protecting the dependants and ſervants of the Sircar; that in caſe of their having a diſpute with, or complaint againſt, any merchant or inhabitant of the country, they ſhall lay ſuch diſpute or complaint before the officer of the government, to be determined in the proper courſe of the juriſdiction of the country; and in like manner, if any one ſhould have a diſpute with, or complaint againſt, the Gomaſtah, the Gomaſtah ſhall appear before the officer of the government, to have it ſettled: In both caſes, if the Gomaſtah thinks himſelf aggrieved by the deciſion he may appeal to his employer, and he to the governor at Calcutta. Nothing here is meant to affect or can affect our rights over the weavers, who received advances for the Company's cloth, and who having nothing to do with rents or employments under the country government, are not underſtood to be their dependants or ſervants, and therefore may and ought to be protected againſt any unjuſt demands of the government's officers, at the diſcretion of the chief of the factory to which they belong: But it is not to theſe Gomaſtahs ſo many acts of oppreſſion are charged, their buſineſs is plain and ſimple; they have only to make the uſual advances to the weavers, and ſee that they perform their contracts, and being immediately under the eye of one or other of the factories, they cannot be guilty of great extravagancies; the complaints come from the diſtant corners of the provinces; as Rungpore, Purnea, Dinagepore, Rangamatty, Gualparah, Silet, Backergunge, &c. where if thoſe complaints are true, the Engliſh Gomaſtahs being under no controul of their maſters, deſpiſe and ill treat the officers of the government, ſet themſelves up for judges and magiſtrates, hear diſputes between the inhabitants, and extort fines; force the merchants to buy their goods at more than the market price, and to ſell what they require as much below it: The complaints I have received of this ſort are innumerable; I have done my utmoſt to find out the truth and get redreſs, and put an end to them, by forwarding copies to the chief of the factory neareſt the place where the cauſe of complaint has ariſen, and deſiring him to enquire into it; but for the moſt part I have got no other ſatisfaction

than the Gomaſtah's flat denial of the facts: the place being very diſtant, a proper examination of witneſſes is almoſt impoſſible, either before this board, or any of the ſubordinates; how then are ſuch diſputes to be ſettled, or the truth diſcovered? I am far from ſaying that the method I have propoſed is free from objections, becauſe I am ſenſible that many of the officers of the government will not exerciſe their authority impartially, and many will gladly take every opportunity of obſtructing our Gomaſtahs, and particularly in this commerce; but I cannot think of a better plan; and it is certainly more agreeable to reaſon, and the practice of all nations, the juriſdiction ſhould be in the hands of proper officers of the government, than of our agents and Gomaſtahs, who are permitted to reſide there only as trading factors, and where neither the laws of our country nor the powers intruſted to us by the Company do give us any judicial authority.

I wiſh, Gentlemen, you may form a better plan, ſince you do not aprove of mine; but if it ſhould appear that this trade cannot be carried on without inveſting our Gomaſtahs with an armed force, and authority to exerciſe that force over the inhabitants at their diſcretion, I think it ſhould be forbid; and we content ourſelves with carrying on our trade as far as the Company carry theirs, and ſo far we ſhall be ſure of the protection of their forces under thei direction of one or other of the factories, who will be anſwerable to the board for the uſe they make of them, which the Gomaſtahs are not, and therefore ſuch an authority ſhould not be truſted in their hands.

Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Hay, and Bolts, complain that I ſent a perſon to enquire into the truth of the complaint againſt the Engliſh Gomaſtahs in the country, and they dignify a poor Banyan with the title of an inquiſitor. My letter to thoſe gentlemen from Mongheer will ſhew the only authority with which that perſon was inveſted; and as they have not laid before you a copy of the letter, I have ſubjoined it hereunto, as it is at leaſt as material as ſome of thoſe pieces they refer to. As ſoon as this inquſitor returns, his report ſhall be laid before you; and as every ſtep I can take for the redreſs of the inhabitants of the country is complained of as an encroachment upon the privileges of the Engliſh, and alſo proves ineffectual, I ſhall for the future lay all the petitions from the inhabitants before the board, hoping that by your reſolutions ſome effectual method will be provided for reſtraining the exceſſes of the Gomaſtahs: the moſt material of thoſe that have lately been preſented to me are hereunto annexed; and I think the putting a ſtop to any abuſes that may be practiſed under the authority of the Engliſh flag, is an attention ſo worthy of this government, that one or more members of the board, or ſome of the ſenior ſervants, ſhould be ſent to inform themſelves upon the ſpot how far the complaints are true, and make their report to the board.

Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay aſſert, That the Nabob's ordering the Rangamatty Fouzedar to receive the uſual duties on goods for inland trade, is contrary to our treaty with the Nabob, and reduces us again to thoſe privileges we enjoyed before the time of Meer Jaffier. I have referred more than once to the treaty with the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, and do not find that it grants us any new privileges of trade; and Colonel Clive, who certainly underſtood that treaty as well as any one, never would grant a Duſtuck for ſalt, or any other article of trade, which had not uſually been granted by former governors.

Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay inſinuate throughout their letter, in terms not to be miſunderſtood, that my reaſon for wiſhing to reſtrain other gentlemens Gomaſtahs, is, that my own may have the more power, and procure for me the greateſt profit: although I am ſatisfied, that ſuch inſinuations would obtain little credit, yet it may not be improper to produce ſome inſtances, that I ſuffer equally with others, when any obſtructions do happen in our trade; and that I am the firſt to practiſe upon my own concerns the reſtraint which I think ſhould upon our Gomaſtahs in general. For the firſt, I appeal to Mr. Amyatt, whether a number of boats of ſalt belonging to me were ſtopped at Cutwal, by the collector of the Gaut, at the ſame with others, and detained as long. For the laſt, I refer to my orders of the 17th of December, and 10th January, to Mr. Moore, my agent at Rungpour, and Mr. Baillie, at Rangamatty; of which copies are hereunto annexed.

As you have been pleaſed to give us your opinion, that Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Hay, and Bolts, did properly, in writing a letter to Sheer Aly, the Fouzedar of Purnea, in their own name, inſtead of applying to the preſident, of courſe every other merchant will take the ſame authority. I am by no means ſorry to be relieved from the trouble of ſuch applications, yet I think it my duty to give it as my opinion, that this intire levelling and equality will not be for the good of the Company's affairs, nor the benefit of the ſociety; and therefore do declare my diſapprobation.

One reaſon Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay give for writing this letter, deſerves to be taken notice of; an unwillingneſs in the preſident to believe complaints of this nature. I requeſt the board will call on them to produce any one inſtance where I have refuſed or delayed to give them, or any other merchant, every aſſiſtance they have aſked of me, in the carrying on their private buſineſs, and obtaining redreſs for their grievances.

In ſhort, gentlemen, their letter throughout is ſo injurious to me as a gentleman (to ſay, nothing of my ſtation) that I ſhould have applied to you for juſtice againſt them, did I not perceive that inſtead of ſhewing your diſpleaſure at ſuch behaviour, you have thought proper to give

give it the ſanction of your approbation. I refer myſelf therefore to the honourable the Court of Directors, who, I am perſuaded, will do me more juſtice.

I ſhall be glad to ſee the number of members at the board increaſed, and wiſh it could always be kept ſo; but if I had propoſed to ſend for particular members from the ſubordinates, to give their opinion on a particular ſubject, I ſhould ſurely be accuſed of an intention to make a majority to carry a particular point: and it is a precedent that may be at ſome time applied to that purpoſe, and therefore I think a bad one.

As to the major, he is to be a member of the board, according to our honourable maſters directions, when military affairs are in debate: how a regulation of a method for carrying on our trade in ſalt, and beetle-nut, and tobacco, can be brought under that title, I cannot conceive; nor how he can be ſuppoſed to be a judge of ſuch a ſubject. Yet if you conceive his advice can be of uſe, I am far from objecting to his being preſent. The matter in queſtion is not with me a point of conteſt or party; I wiſh only to ſee ſuch rules laid down, that the Nabob and we may know our proper limits, and prevent our ſervants from tranſgreſſing them; which will require both time and patience, and much care and attention. The beſt laws will be ſometimes tranſgreſſed; but the inconveniencies which ariſe from ſuch tranſgreſſions ought not to be objected againſt the laws themſelves, but againſt the tranſgreſſors, who can only be reſtrained by the conſtant care of government.

No. 38.

Fort William, 3 February 1763.

MR. Amyatt lays before the board the following minute, in reply to that which the preſident delivered in, laſt council day:

In conſequence of my having preſided at this board during the abſence of Mr. Vanſittart, I ſhall now take the liberty to reply, in part, to the minute which he laid before council on the 1ſt inſtant.

Firſt, as to the ſubject of his letter to the Nabob, in reſpect to the tranſaction therein contained, I ſhall leave it to be debated and determined at the full board, when the reſt of the members arrive, and when I make not the leaſt doubt, having received the aſſiſtance of their deliberations, but we ſhall be enabled to form a ſet of regulations equally equitable with the preſident's, and every way as conducive to the intereſt of the Country government and our own; and, I truſt, of a much greater tendency to prevent future jealouſies and animoſities between us, of which the clauſe for ſubjecting us ſo thoroughly to their judicature muſt have proved an inexhauſtible ſource.

What I have therefore chiefly to point out, is, that the preſident in this tranſaction has acted without a proper authority. It was but laſt council day, gentlemen, that the proceedings in this affair were read at our board; and although I gave the greateſt attention to the peruſal, I could not diſtinguiſh that we veſted the preſident with the powers he pretends; nay, I obſerve that he himſelf can only pick out one phraſe to anſwer his purpoſe; from perverting even the literal ſenſe of which, and entirely the well known meaning of the board, he draws a ſanction of ours for what he has done. Right ſorry am I to find that recourſe is had to playing upon words, becauſe I think it is a cuſtom which ought to be utterly excluded in matters ſo ſerious as generally prove the buſineſs of this board; and orders from them which are not explicit ſhould rather be ſcrupulouſly followed, than in a vague and unlimited ſenſe. It is needleſs to enlarge much more on the ſubject, for our proceedings on receipt of the articles from the preſident and Mr. Haſtings (which we then underſtood to be only propoſed) plainly demonſtrate that we never gave, or intended to give, them power to conclude thoſe, or any other; of courſe the preſident's doing it was an authority aſſumed: but, if he could ſo well underſtand the meaning of the board in the above particular, and act in conſequence, how happens it, I ſhould be glad to know, that their directions and earneſt recommendations for procuring reſtitution for the late loſſes of any individuals, were not paid an equal regard to?

Next, with reſpect to the letter delivered in by Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Hay, (which I always held as a mere ſecondary matter, but which I find the preſident has expatiated upon very largely) I muſt in the name of the board deny that it met from them the approbation which he alledges. Their minute, of which I think the ſenſe cannot well be perverted, ſerving no further than to expreſs their opinion, that the apology of thoſe gentlemen was, for the tranſaction in queſtion, to them ſatisfactory. Although I cannot implicitly agree with the preſident that the ſaid letter is filled with unjuſt and indecent reflections, yet I concur entirely that our honourable maſters ſhould become the judges in this, as of all our other proceedings.

No. 39.

From Nabob Coſſim Ally Cawn to Mr. Vanſittart.

February 22, 1763.

I Received your friendly letter, which gave me much pleaſure. You write that concerning the inland trade of this country, (that is to ſay) ſalt, tobacco, beetle-nut, dried fiſh, which being purchaſed in this country ſhall be carried for ſale to other parts of the country, a duty of 9 per cent. was agreed between me and you to be paid; but that the Phouzdars and managers do not regard it, but that they want to put a ſtop to the whole trade; likewiſe that they demand duties on cloth, &c. belonging to the Company, having a duſtuck with the Company's ſeal, and which never was known to pay duties; that Shake Hybut, a peon upon Ramkunt Holdar, your own private Gomaſtah at Pantipoor, did not regard the Company's duſtuck, but by force took from him the amount of 110 rupees on account duties, and as yet has not taken off the peon; alſo that Kaujah Aſkaſuk, who through the means of Kaujah Warrens was appointed to tranſact your own private buſineſs at Jangymagur, and had agreeable to the Company's duſtuck, provided 30 bales of Cloth, 28 of which he ſent firſt, and afterwards the two others; but that Mahomed Ally Beg Tuſſaidar intercepted, and detained, and demanded duties thereon: and deſiring I would ſpeedily write very fully to all the Phouzdars and managers concerning this, not to take duties on any thing without reaſon. — What you write, I underſtood. — The tranſlates of your Gomaſtah's letter I have ſeen.

The whole of the diſpute is this: The merchants, &c. whoſe names are entered in my office, always pay duties. Now you purchaſe goods through their means, therefore the managers to the government know not whether the goods belong to you or the merchants. Through the will of God, your Gomaſtahs and houſes are every where; therefore, why do not you purchaſe and ſell goods through the means of your own Gomaſtahs, and your own houſes? and if the merchants were to have no ſhare in it, no noiſe or diſpute could poſſibly ariſe. Goods being purchaſed from the merchants who always paid duties on the goods they bought and ſold, and now do not, is the cauſe of theſe diſputes.—Therefore you will pleaſe to deſer trading with thoſe merchants, who from former time have belonged to the government; then there will be no diſputes between your people and mine.

Incloſed.

I have wrote very fully to the managers at Nudia, Dacca, &c. not in any reſpect whatever to intercept or moleſt any goods belonging to the Company at any of their places of trade, having a Company's duſtuck with them. If any of the managers belonging to the government ſhould be uncertain, whether the goods belong to the Company, or the gentlemen, or the Engliſh Gomaſtahs, and do not ſee the Company's duſtuck, what can I do? For which reaſon, ſhould the managers belonging to the Sicar, if the Company's duſtuck is produced, interrupt goods, or diſregard my perwannah, the Gomaſtahs belonging to the Engliſh, through their own pleaſure or pride, will not ſhew the Company's duſtuck; therefore direct all the Gomaſtahs very fully not to delay ſhewing the duſtuck.

No. 40.

Inſtructions to Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay.

To Peter Amyatt, and William Hay, Eſquires.

Gentlemen, Fort William, the 28th March 1763.

1. THE trade of our factories on behalf of the Company, as well as the inland trade carried on by the agents and Gomaſtahs of Engliſh merchants, having for ſome months paſt met with the greateſt interruptions in all parts of the country from the officers of the Nabob's government, and this having further proved the ſource of numerous diſputes and complaints on both ſides; we have had under conſideration the ſettling of certain rules, agreeable to our reſpective rights and pretenſions, whereby to carry on our trade, and be the means of preventing ſuch diſputes from happening in future in theſe points: We have already come to ſome regulations, and having the greateſt reliance on your abilities, prudence, and zeal, as well for the intereſt of our honourable maſters, as for the welfare and good of the community, we have thought proper to depute you to make known to the Nabob thoſe reſolutions.

2. In the firſt place you muſt again acquaint the Nabob, that the regulations made with him by the preſident being diſapproved, are of courſe become void; and you are therefore to redemand the letter which contained them; you are alſo to inſiſt, in caſe he has not before iſſued ſuch

ſuch orders, that he do revoke all thoſe orders which he ſent to his officers in conſequence of the ſaid regulations, and inform him, that trade is in every reſpect to go on in its uſual channel, until he (the Nabob) has ſettled with you the buſineſs of your deputation.

3. Accompanying this you will receive Engliſh and Perſian copies of the phirmaun, and Huſbulhookums and treaties, on which we found a right to free trade; theſe we have concluded, give us an indiſputable privilege for any of our trades, as well foreign as inland, throughout the provinces of this Subah, free of any deductions to the country government; you muſt therefore carefully and clearly explain to the Nabob, the tenor and ſubſtance of all thoſe grants, and the juſtice that it follows we have on our ſide for abiding thereby.

4. When you have fully aſſerted and convinced the Nabob of theſe our rights and privileges, you will make known to him the reſolution of council the 2d inſtant, for allowing him a duty on ſalt, with our motives therefore; firſt, becauſe from general informations taken, it appears this article has from cuſtom always paid a certain, though unſettled, duty. Secondly, becauſe it is not our intention through too ſcrupulous an aſſertion of our rights to detriment or diminiſh the revenues of this government, or in any reſpect to leſſen to him the advantages reaped at our hands by his predeceſſors the former Subahs; that allowing theſe ſentiments to weigh as far with us as the regard for the intereſts of out employers and the community, and for the tenor of our ſaid grants, will poſſibly admit, we have reſolved to allow him (the Nabob) a fixed duty on the article of ſalt, at two and a half per cent. on the Rowannah price; but as we have no grounds for extending this conſideration further, we cannot admit of duties being levied on any other articles of trade whatſoever.

5. To aſcertain the payment of this duty, and at the ſame time maintain in its full force the authority of the Engliſh duſtuck, the article of ſalt ſhall be circulated equally with other articles by means of a duſtuck, and be liable to no further ſcrutiny or interruption, provided the Buckſbunder or Shawbunder for the aforementioned duty appears properly granted and entered on the back thereof.

6. For regulating in future the conduct of our agents and Gomaſtahs, and the officers and dependants of the Nabob's government, with reſpect to injuries committed on either ſide, and diſputes which may ariſe between them, we have agreed on the following rules, which you muſt intimate to the Nabob, and as we think they will every way anſwer the ends required, you muſt acquaint him that they are therefore to be punctually obſerved.

7. The Nabob having lately affected an ignorance of the nature of this government, and the powers of the council, the preſident, in his anſwer, endeavoured to ſet him right on that head; but it will ſtill be neceſſary that you again explain this matter perſonally to him by commiſſion from the board, that future pretenſions of the like ignorance may not be the means of detrimenting our affairs.

8. There further appears in the courſe of his correſpondence, certain expreſſions which imply a diffidence of the friendſhip of ſeveral members of the council towards him; theſe ill founded ſuſpicions you muſt uſe your moſt ſtrenuous endeavours to remove, and on the contrary, to convince him, that we ſhall be always, with one voice, agreeable to aſſiſt and ſupport him and his government, provided no attempts are made towards the infringement of our rights and privileges; but that from a juſt obſervance of them, and a ſteady obedience to the repeated orders of our employers, we can never put up with attempts that have in the malleſt degree ſuch a tendency.

9. With reſpect to the regulations for trade, we think it will be the moſt proper method to have our rights acknowledged, and under the Nabob's own hand and ſeal, taking care that there is no expreſſions inſerted in it contrary to the ſenſe we entertain of our rights by our former grants or treaties, or that may tend in any degree, to invalidate them. To ſuch writings you may accede, reſerving to us the power of finally ratifying the ſame.

10. As we think it abſolutely neceſſary, both for the intereſt of our affairs and the Nabob's, to have a gentleman in the ſervice, reſident at his court, we have appointed Mr. Thomas Amphlett to accompany you in the deputation, and afterwards remain with the Nabob in that capacity; you will therefore introduce him to the Nabob accordingly, and acquaint him, that all tranſactions between him and us are, after your departure, to be carried on by this reſident; and that all orders which are iſſued through the country relating to the Engliſh, are to be firſt intimated to and approved by him. At your departure you will leave in charge with Mr. Amphlett any part of theſe inſtructions which you may not be able to finiſh, and give him ſuch further directions as you may think neceſſary.

11. Having had repeated inſtances of the ill diſpoſition and bad behaviour of Mahomed Aly, the collector of the Dacca diſtricts, we here incloſe you a particular proof, in copies of letters which he wrote to Syed Buddul Cawn; and we muſt deſire that you will inſiſt on his being diſmiſſed from his offices, and obliged to make reparation for all the loſſes he has been the occaſion of, ſince the beginning of theſe diſturbances.

12. The orders by which we took poſſeſſion of the lands being only Amulnamas, we muſt deſire that you will apply to the Nabob for proper Lacqueeny Sunnuds, to confirm the Company's right to the three provinces.

13. You muſt likewiſe demand from the Nabob payment of a ſum of money which Mahomed Reza Cawn diſburſed out of the revenues of the Chittagong province, on account of

the Tippeza expedition: to inſtruct you in which, we have ordered the particulars to be tranſmitted you by the accomptant of the committee of lands.

14. Since we began to draw up thoſe inſtructions, we have received intelligence of the Nabob's having publiſhed a Sunnud, containing an exemption from all duties on every kind of trade for the ſpace of two years; copies of the Sunnud and a Perwannah, which accompanied it to Nobut Roy, the Naib of Patna, you will receive herewith; and as we are of opinion, that this ſtep is taken with a deſign to prejudice the Company's trading buſineſs, and counteract the meaſures we have been hitherto taking for the welfare of trade in general, we deſire that you will inſiſt on the Nabob's revoking that Sunnud, and collecting duties as before.

15. We further tranſmit copy of a minute entered on this day's conſultation by Meſſieurs Johnſtone and Hay, and we deſire you will make the inquiry therein recommended.

We wiſh you ſucceſs in your deputation; and are, with eſteem, &c.

No. 41.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

YOUR favour of the 24th ultimo we received the 2d inſtant, and immediately diſpatched your letter incloſed therein to the Nabob: as far as we can judge, he inclines not to pacific meaſures; for ſince the receipt of your letters of the 7th and 11th ultimo, he has been conſtantly ſending troops into this city. The commanders of his forces in different parts of the country hereabouts, are under orders to aſſemble at Patna, and ſome of them actually in motion, by which it ſeems as if he intended a blow at this party; on that head however we are perfectly eaſy, but under the deepeſt concern for the fate of the city, which we are hourly apprehenſive will be plundered by the licentious undiſciplined rabble within its walls. The ſuburbs are already entirely deſerted, and the wretched ſituation of people of all ranks is more eaſy to conceive than deſcribe.

Meer Mindi Cawn is the name of the perſon whom the Nabob has appointed his Naib here; but to this time he has not paid the chief the uſual compliment of acquainting him with his arrival. He carries on the preparations for attack or defence (for as yet we know not which to call them) with more vigour than his predeceſſor, and thereby adds to the terror and alarm of the inhabitants:—The night before laſt the whole of his people were under arms on the walls, and firing their guns and ſmall arms till morning; great part of yeſterday the gates were kept ſhut, and the relief of our Hoſpital Guard refuſed admittance; upon which the chief wrote him a letter, a copy of it we now incloſe, as likewiſe of his anſwer. The guard has been ſince admitted, but the Burbunna gate ſtill remains ſhut.

It is commonly talked that the Nabob has ſent this Mindi Cawn to drive out the Engliſh; but your honour, &c. will judge that there is not much danger to be apprehended from a man, whoſe talent ſeems chiefly to lie in founding his own praiſe; his inſolence may however reduce us to the diſagreeable neceſſity of taking the city from him.

With the greateſt difficulty we have collected money ſufficient to pay our Europeans for this month, and our Seapoys for March, and have not at this time a ſingle rupee in caſh. We therefore requeſt your honour, &c. will take the moſt ſpeedy method of ſupplying us.

We are with reſpect, Honourable Sir and Sirs,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,

Patna, the
5th April 1763.

W. ELLIS,
HENRY LUSHINGTON,
SAMUEL HEWITT,
W. SMITH.

No. 42.

Fort William Conſultations, 14 April 1763.

THE board being come to concert the meaſures proper to be taken, in caſe that a rupture ſhould happen between us and the Nabob, the ſeveral caſes were fully conſidered and debated on; and the following reſolutions were in conſequence planned and agreed.

Although it is to be hoped that the diſputes with the Nabob will yet come to an amicable iſſue, it is thought neceſſary to be prepared with a plan of operations, which may be moſt expedient to enſure ſucceſs, in caſe of a contrary event.

It is therefore reſolved, firſt, that in caſe of a rupture with the Nabob, and the Nabob ſhould march towards Patna, in order to attack our troops and factory there, they

they ſhall endeavour to poſſeſs themſelves of the city, if they think they can poſſeſs themſelves of it without much loſs, and there remain until they receive further orders from us or Major Adams; but if they ſhould by attacking the city think they run a riſk of failing in the attempt, or loſing of many men, they muſt then take ſuch poſt as they think they can beſt defend themſelves in, and if they can, cover the factory until they ſhall receive further orders as abovementioned; that in either caſe they muſt be careful to ſecure all the proviſion they can of every kind, and alſo draught and carriage bullocks.

Secondly, that in caſe of a rupture with the Nabob, and he ſhall remain at Mongheer, the Patna party ſhall act as in the firſt caſe.

Thirdly, that in caſe of a rupture, and the Nabob marches down this way, the Patna party ſhall, after attacking and poſſeſſing themſelves of the city, move down as far as Rowoonullah, to be in greater readineſs to join Major Adams, and there wait for orders from Major Adams, unleſs from an alteration of circumſtances their own diſcretion ſhall direct them to act otherwiſe.

That in any of the foregoing caſes theſe are our preſent thoughts; but that we do not mean by ſuch a plan to reſtrict them from taking any advantage that may happen, in caſe of a rupture declared.

This plan being ſettled for the Patna party in caſe of a rupture, the queſtion is put,

How they ſhall be informed of a rupture, or what they ſhall conſtrue as ſuch?

Mr. Johnſtone thinks the Nabob's ſtopping our communication by letter, and moving in conſequence with his army and artillery towards Patna, when there is no other enemy in the country adjacent, againſt whom he may have cauſe to move, or ought in reaſon to be believed, that he directs the march of his army this way, attended by any correſpondent act of hoſtility of his forces ſtationed at or round Patna, ſuch as ſtopping their proviſion or communication with the country, or oppoſing our people in the execution of their buſineſs; might in the preſent circumſtances be conſtrued by them as a rupture; and that they might immediately proceed to act as directed in the plan.

The preſident thinks, that Mr. Johnſtone's propoſal is extremely vague, and leaves it in the power of the Gentlemen at Patna, by an error in judgment, to involve us in a war, which we would rather avoid; and therefore would propoſe, that the orders to the Gentlemen at Patna ſhould be after this manner: That they will be inſtantly informed from us, if we ſhould be obliged to declare a rupture with the Nabob; and that therefore they muſt wait for ſuch information before they act upon ſuch a plan laid down, keeping in the mean time well on their guard, and defending themſelves and the Company's rights againſt all attacks: That he propoſes theſe limited orders the rather, as he looks upon the party at Patna to be of ſuch a ſtrength as to run no riſk from any attack of the Nabob.

The queſtion being put to the reſt of the board, which of theſe opinions ſhall be adopted?

Meſſrs. Watts, Marriott, Haſtings, Cartier, and Billers agree to the preſident's.

Mr. Batſon is of Mr. Johnſtone's opinion, becauſe, after the Nabob has once commenced hoſtilities againſt us, the tying up our party at Patna from acting on the offenſive as well as the defenſive, will give him an advantage in caſes of exigency that may happen.

Major Adams thinks that the Gentlemen at Patna ought not to commence hoſtilities without the orders of the board; but that ſhould the Nabob march a large force towards Patna, without any apparent reaſon, or otherwiſe commit any acts of hoſtility, that they ſhould take any ſtep for their own ſecurity, even to the taking of the city of Patna, if it ſhould be deemed abſolutely neceſſary, and there defend themſelves, without proceeding further until they receive the orders of the board.

No. 43.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident, Governor, &c. Council.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

WE have received your favour of the 14th inſtant, with the reſolutions of the board, which, as far as we comprehend them, will not allow us to conſtrue any act of the Nabob's as hoſtile, although ever ſo greatly tending to our ruin; but are to wait until we have notice from you of a rupture being declared, although who there may be then to receive your commands is hard to ſay; but moſt probably neither any of us, nor of the party now here, as we ſhall clearly evince.

We have had good intelligence (not from Harkarrahs) that if the army ſhould move from Calcutta, the Nabob intends marching here to attack us; in which caſe he will inſtantly remove our dawkes, and cut off all communication by that channel. It will be the third day of his march before we can receive certain advice of it, and a ſingle caſſid will be twelve days reaching Calcutta, provided he meets with no impediment; but

but it is more probable that at ſuch a juncture he never gets there; and ſtill more ſo, that your anſwer never reaches us. How then are we to act? This factory, it is well known, is not tenable if attacked from the city, and to abandon it will, amongſt many other evils, give ſuch a ſhock to the ſpirit of our troops, as may induce the greateſt part of our Seapoys (in whom our principal ſtrength conſiſts) to deſert us, and go over to the Nabob, where they are better enſured of ſucceſs, and will meet with ample encouragement, which has not been ſpared, even when there was no appearance of a rupture, to thoſe who would deſert with their arms. Another ſubſtantial reaſon why we cannot leave the factory is, our having ſent our ammunition for its greater ſecurity in the lower part of the houſe, the magazine where it before lay being liable to be blown up by a common rocket.

But let us ſuppoſe for a moment, that on the Nabob's marching againſt us we quit the factory and take poſt, are we to ſacrifice our ſurgeons and ſick, who reſide in the city; for it cannot be ſuppoſed that they will be permitted to come out, or if they could, the ſituation of moſt of them is ſuch, that they being brought into the air will be attended with certain death? When we have fortified ourſelves in this poſt, our affairs are not at all mended; for the Nabob has only to ſurround and ſtarve us, whilſt we, dying by inches, ſit waiting for your orders, which can never arrive but with the army, and that at the ſooneſt will be forty days after his march from Mongheer. How are we to ſubſiſt all this time? The Nabob ſeizes all proviſions coming from Bengal; and ſuch is the ſcarcity here, that had it not been for the gunge which ſo much pains was taken to aboliſh, we had long ere now been obliged to take up arms to procure our daily ſuſtenance; but was there plenty, we have not a rupee to purchaſe it. With the utmoſt difficulty we have ſcraped money together to pay our troops for theſe two months paſt, and at this time have not ſufficient to diſcharge a fourth part of the demands that will be upon us in a few days, although we acquainted your honour, &c. of the lowneſs of our caſh ſo long ago as the 2d of February.

This party, 'tis true, runs no riſque from the Nabob, provided we are allowed to act and make the moſt of every advantage, that may offer; but if our hands are tied, our deſtruction becomes inevitable; ſuch a body as this muſt ever act offenſively and vigorouſly, and nip the deſigns of their enemy in the bud; 'tis by ſuch conduct only that they can hope to preſerve themſelves; and ſurely it is juſt and laudable to make uſe of any means providence has put in our power, to defeat the attacks of a cruel and faithleſs enemy.

Our ſafety lies in maſtering the city by a coup de main, before the Nabob gets into it, for afterwards it may be impracticable; and the conſequence of our acting on the defenſive, any where but in the city, we have already pointed out. Our diſtance from Calcutta is very great, and whenever the Nabob marches this way, our communication will be cut off, and moſt probably not opened but by your army: If therefore we ſhould obey nature's firſt law, we hope we ſhall not be found culpable, though it may not perfectly coincide with your honour, &c's. orders.

We cannot conclude, without obſerving to your honour, &c. that we think we have no ways merited the diffidence you expreſs, nor given the leaſt reaſon even to ſuſpect, that we would involve the Company in a war by any raſh or unpremeditated ſtep; we rather think that we have given proofs of a contrary diſpoſition, in bearing the many inſults we have received, particularly ſince Mendy Ali Cawn has been appointed Naib here, whoſe people have even dared to abuſe and call us opprobrious names, aloud from the walls.

We ſhall be as far as any, to whom the management of the Company's affairs are entruſted, from bringing them into difficulties; but when it is really neceſſary, ſhall endeavour to act with a ſpirit that becomes ſubjects of Britain, and ſervants of her greateſt commercial body.

Your honour, &c's. letters are always one and often two days earlier in date than any others from Calcutta, which gives the Nabob a great advantage over us in point of intelligence. We therefore requeſt you will order them to be diſpatched with the utmoſt expedition.

We are with reſpect, honourable Sir, and Sirs,
Your moſt obedient humble Servants,
W. Ellis,
Henry Lushington,
Samuel Hewitt,
W. Smith.

Patna, 24th April 1763.

No. 44.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

WE waited on the Nabob the 15th, to acquaint him of your reſolutions; and in converſing on the different articles, we found it impoſſible to diſcuſs ſeparately on them; and he deſiring us to write down what he had to ſay to him, we delivered to him a Perſian tranſlate we had made of our inſtructions; the ſame being read, he deſired we would leave it with him, as alſo the Phirmaunds, &c. which we acquieſced to. The next evening he ſent his Moonſhy Hafiz Iſſerrat Cawn to us, to deſire we would ſign that Perſian tranſlate, or draw out a liſt of ſuch demands as we were commiſſioned to get complied with, which we accordingly did, and ſent it to him, ſigned and ſealed. Copy of which is here incloſed. We again waited on him this morning, to deſire his anſwer if he would comply with theſe articles, and give us the ſatisfaction required; he replied, it would take up ſome time to conſider on them, and deſired two days to give his anſwer. We had a good deal of converſation with him on different ſubjects; in which it appeared, he had conſidered himſelf as in a ſtate of war with us for ſome time paſt, and iſſued orders and made preparations accordingly, which has been the cauſe of ſome of the interruptions and inſults our people have met with lately; and moſt of the others, he ſaid, had been occaſioned by Mr. Vanſittart's letter, which he then looked on as a treaty the governor had been authorized to enter into with him, which cauſed him to ſend theſe orders over the country to his aumils, the executing of which we now ſo much complain of. We remarked to him many of theſe interruptions we had laboured under before that letter. As far as we can judge from our laſt converſation, he ſeems ſomewhat convinced that our intentions are not hoſtile, ſo long as he doth not attempt to infringe our rights, (which we have uſed our beſt endeavours to perſuade him) and gives us ſatisfaction for the loſſes ſuſtained by, and inſults offered to, the Engliſh by his officers in different parts of the country. This we are in hopes he will comply with, though he makes great uſe of the argument of his having acted by Mr. Vanſittart's agreement. We cannot write you at preſent with any certainty of his intentions, but hope to be more ſo in our next. We ſhall again wait on him for a further converſation on the many articles he is to comply with, before the time appointed by him for giving his anſwer, to endeavour further to convince him of the reaſonable uſe of them; when we ſhall mention to him the moving our troops to Patna, which hitherto we have declined on account of his ſuſpicions.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

Mongheer, the 18th May 1763.

P. Amyatt,
W. Hay.

No. 45.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

WE have not ſeen the Nabob theſe four days, he being indiſpoſed, which cauſed us to importune him by letters, for an anſwer to the ſeveral demands you ordered us to inſiſt on his complying with. This morning he ſent it by Nobut Roy, which, we now incloſe you. We had before flattered ourſelves, he intended giving us a favourable one, though he all along continued to inſiſt on our people being the aggreſſors, and complained of our ſeizing his Aumils, when he was always ready to redreſs our grievances, without entering into juſt arguments, but confining it to occurrences lately happened, ſince his orders iſſued in conſequence of Mr. Vanſittart's letter; but he ſeemed to agree, by his converſation, that the method we now wanted our buſineſs to go on in, properly obſerved, was juſt; and to appearance, he was free from apprehenſions of our wanting to quarrel with him: That we now muſt conjecture his behaviour was only to delay time for ſome purpoſe or other.

The boats with the arms, for Patna, arrived here yeſterday, and were ſtopped by the Nabob's Chowkey: we immediately applied for their releaſe, and gave them a Duſtuck, mentioning they contained arms; which they have kept, and the boats ſtill continue detained: the Nabob promiſed an anſwer by Nobut Roy, this morning, who ſaid, they were detained by having arms in them.

The letter written him to-day we have ſent, hoping it will have ſome effect upon his mind, reflecting that our going away muſt neceſſarily bring on a rupture, to prevent which it may

make

make him hearken to reaſon, and ſtill be brought to comply with the articles required; therefore, if he deſires us to ſtay, and releaſes the boats, we ſhall continue here till ſuch time as we receive your orders how we are to act in caſe of his non-compliance with any or every article; but if he continues the hoſtile action of detaining the arms, we ſhall move from hence, either towards Bengal or Patna, as moſt convenient, if we have reaſon to ſuſpect his wanting to ſtop us.

If you ſend the army, it will be neceſſary you take precautions about grain, which is very ſcarce, and none to be had on this ſide Muxadabad, on this ſide the river: we take the liberty of adviſing you not to think of ſending the forces through the hills the Pachiet way, as it is very unwholeſome, this time of the year, to go that way, from the exceſſive heats, as well as interruptions from the Nullahs being full, now the rains are coming on.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

Mongheer, 26th May 1763.

P. Amyat.
W. Hay.

No. 46.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, preſident and governor, &c. council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

IMagining we might ſoon be in want of money to defray our charges, we applied to the Nabob for ten thouſand rupees, who immediately let us have it, for which we have given him a ſet of bills of exchange for ten thouſand Patna Sunnaut rupees on you, payable at ſight.

Notwithſtanding our repeated remonſtrances to his Excellency, ſetting forth the hoſtility of the action, he has not yet releaſed the boats with the arms, neither does he ſhew the leaſt confidence in what we ſay, and declares (at the ſame time hinting to us the former reſolution) he ſhall not put any in us, till we remove the detachment from Patna to Mongheer. We beg leave to offer it as our opinion, That the having the troops intended to be quartered in this province ſtationed here, at his requeſt, would be very adviſable, but cannot be thought of till ſuch time as he complies with our demands, as it is probably made by caprice or deſign.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient Servants,

Mongheer, 29 May 1763.

P. Amyatt.
W. Hay.

No. 47.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, preſident and governor, &c. council of Fort William.

Gentlemen,

THE incloſed is a duplicate of our laſt, dated 29th inſtant, on which day we ſent you a cypher, made out here, which we imagined might be uſeful in carrying on our correſpondence, in caſe of a rupture: a copy of the ſame was likewiſe forwarded to Mr. Ellis at Patna.

Whatever we urge to his Excellency, in regard to the releaſe of the boats with arms, or the neceſſity of his placing a proper confidence in us, his general reply is, That we have ſeized his Aumils; that the words of the Engliſh are not to be truſted; and that he will not releaſe the boats, till ſuch time as we remove our troops from Patna, either to this place or to Calcutta, although he will take no ſteps towards a reconciliation, or to give us ſatisfaction, yet he, upon all occaſions, mentions his deſire of peace: in ſhort, his aim ſeems to be entirely to gain time.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

Mongheer, 31ſt May 1763.

P. Amyatt.
W. Hay.

No. 48.

At a conſultation; PRESENT,

Stanlake Batſon, Eſquire, preſident.——William Billiers, Eſquire.——John Cartier, Eſquire.
——Warren Haſtings, Eſquire.——Randolph Marriott, Eſquire.

BEFORE the buſineſs of the council commenced, the ſecretary reported to the board, that after yeſterday's conſultation, having waited on the governor, to get the letter for Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay tranſcribed in cypher, he expreſſed his ſentiments to him in the following terms: That he thought the orders to Mongheer amounted almoſt to a plain declaration of war againſt the Nabob, and left nothing in the power of Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay

Hay to treat or promiſe further, even if they ſhould find him in a diſpoſition to conciliate, neither contained any inſtructions to them on a ſuppoſition that the Nabob did releaſe the arms, and not inſiſt on the removal of the troops from Patna as a preliminary; that the governor therefore directed the ſecretary to wait on Mr. Batſon on his return to town, and deſire him to ſummon another council as this day, when he would tranſmit to the board his full opinion on this ſubject, and afterwards leave to them to ſend ſuch orders as they thought proper, and that on this account he deſired the diſpatch of the letters might be delayed till to-day; that he the ſecretary, accordingly intimated this to Mr. Batſon, who in conſequence ordered him to ſummon a council, and delay the diſpatch of the letters.

The ſecretary lays before the court the following letter, which he this morning received from the governor.

To Mr. ſecretary Graham,

Sir,

As my late indiſpoſition prevents my attending the board, I muſt take this method of delivering my opinion upon the inſtructions which ſhould be ſent to Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay, in anſwer to the laſt advices received from them.

If the Nabob perſiſts in detaining the boats with arms, I think it muſt be deemed a declared act of hoſtility, and Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay directed in ſuch caſe to take their leave.

If the Nabob refuſes to treat further with thoſe Gentlemen, without removing our troops from Patna, by way of preliminary, I think in that caſe likewiſe they ſhould take their leave, as I am not for conſenting to make any change in the ſtation of our troops upon ſuch a demand.

But ſuppoſing the arms to be releaſed, and that Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay find the Nabob in a diſpoſition to treat, without inſiſting on the removal of our troops from Patna, as a preliminary, then I think thoſe Gentlemen ſhould be furniſhed with inſtructions what further to ſay to the Nabob; and thoſe inſtructions I think ſhould be, with reſpect to the troops at Patna, to repreſent to the Nabob that they were ſtationed there with the view of being in readineſs to aſſiſt him, wherever his affairs might require it, and that they ſhould be ready to act in conformity to that as ſoon as the preſent differences between us were accommodated; they ſhould be further acquainted to call upon the Nabob for his particular objections to the ſeveral articles or demands delivered him; and having tranſmitted the ſame to the board, it ſhould be conſidered which of them are material to be inſiſted on.

Some anſwer ſhould likewiſe be ſent to Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay regarding Mahomed Ally, and the other officers of the government, at preſent kept here priſoners: the Nabob ſays, As we have ſeized them, and have them in our hands, we may take our own ſatisfaction for the loſſes ſome have ſuffered in their private trade; we ſhould either tell Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay that we will do ſo, or elſe we ſhould ſend thoſe officers up to them, with inſtructions to deliver them up to the Nabob, deſiring him to oblige them to make good ſuch loſſes; at the ſame time receiving from the government's officers the accounts of loſſes they ſay they have ſuffered by the violences of ſome Engliſh agents and Gomaſtahs; and this ſecond method I think the moſt proper.

Neither the Company's nor private trade meets at preſent with any interruption. This is an eſſential reaſon why we ought to avoid, if poſſible, engaging our employers in any expenſive war, and involving the country in troubles to their great loſs, as well as that of the ſettlement in general.

The low ſtate of our treaſury, and the peace in Europe, by which the French will be repoſſeſſed of their ſettlements in this country, are in my opinion ſtrong reaſons why we ſhould if poſſible, keep on good terms with the Nabob.

Finally, I think that further inſtructions ſhould be ſent to the gentlemen at Patna concerning their manner of acting in caſe a rupture with the Nobob ſhould be unavoidable, with reference I mean to the ſeaſon, which would prevent the troops from hence marching by land to join thoſe at Patna, and going up in boats would take up a long time; upon this article I ſubmit myſelf to the judgment of Major Adams.

I am, Sir,

Your moſt humble Servant,

Henry Vanſittart.

The

The ſame being read, and duly conſidered;

Agreed, that we write in conſequence a further letter to Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay, acquainting them, That ſuppoſing the arms to be releaſed, and they ſhould find the Nabob inclinable ſtill to treat, without inſiſting on the removal of the troops from Patna, as a preliminary, they may aſſure him that thoſe troops have been always ſtationed there for the ſecurity of his government, and to maintain the tranquility of the country, and that they ſhall ſtill continue to act in conformity to this view: That they ſhall then call upon the Nabob for his particular objections to the ſeveral articles or demands delivered him, and tranſmit them to us; when we ſhall conſider and determine which of them are ſo material as to require being ſtill inſiſted on, and which may be moderated: That if the Nabob ſhould again make mention of Mahomed Ally, and the other priſoners here, we leave it to them to judge whether we had beſt proſecute the enquiry againſt them ourſelves, or ſend them up to them to have it finiſhed in preſence of the Nabob, and to give him their anſwer accordingly: that they may receive from the government's officers the accounts of any loſſes they ſay they have ſuſtained by the violences of Engliſh agents and Gomaſtahs, upon their being properly authenticated; and again aſſure the Nabob, that for whatever appears to be juſt he ſhall receive full ſatisfaction.

On the further ſubject of the governor's letter, the board are of opinion, That their utmoſt endeavours have been already uſed to prevent the country's being involved in troubles, or their employers engaged in an expenſive war, and that they can now only leave it to time to ſatisfy them whether theſe endeavours will prove effectual: That the circumſtance of a peace in Europe, and the ſuppoſition drawn from thence, that the French will obtain a re-ſettlement here, is rather a ſtrong reaſon why we ſhould employ the moſt ſpirited methods to become immediately aſſured of the Nabob's intention and diſpoſition towards us, and not delay time in fruitleſs negotiation: That with regard to the laſt paragraph of the governor's letter referred to the judgment of Major Adams, the Major, with the reſt of the members, think it is neceſſary to ſend further inſtructions to Patna than thoſe contained in the letter of yeſterday to Meſſieurs Amyatt and Hay, and whereof a copy was tranſmitted to the factory.

WM. BILLIERS,
WARREN HASTINGS,
RAND. MARRIOTT,
H. WATTS.

No. 49.

Fort William, 13th of June 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,

William Billers, Eſquire,——John Cartier, Eſquire,——Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,——Hugh Watts, Eſquire.

RECEIVED a letter from Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay, dated the 6th of June, adviſing that the arms ſtill continue ſtopped with a ſtrong guard over them, and no diſcourſe concerning buſineſs now paſſes between them and the Nabob; that he is intirely buoyed up in the notions of his own ſtrength and power to oppoſe our troops, and therefore to oppreſs our trade as he pleaſes; that no Engliſh boats paſs by Mongheer but with much difficulty, and after many days detention; that daily ſome aggravating circumſtances or other happen to corroborate his intentions of not complying with our demands, but really deſigning to break with us; that they have great reaſon to ſuſpect the Armenians urge him on to refuſe our meaſures; that they are informed he ſome days ago received 17 cheſts of arms, which were ſaid to have come from the Dutch; that he had ſtopped ſome boats of rice with an Engliſh Duſtuck, going to our guns at Patna, and has detained them under pretence of its belonging to ſome merchant of his; that there has been many boats with ſeapoys ſent towards Bengal within theſe four days, and all preparations for war are making both at Mongheer and Patna; that the Nabob has received two Perſian letters, the contents of which they have not been made acquainted with, and therefore deſire they may be adviſed thereof. Their letter further ends with the following paragraph in cypher: Notwithſtanding we ſhould not think of breaking with the Nabob, they think it impoſſible to avoid it, and that we ſhould get them out of his power as ſoon as poſſible.

In reſpect to the remark which Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay make of the two Perſian letters received by the Nabob, the preſident deſires they may be acquainted that they were his; one informed

formed the Nabob of his being out of order, and the other contained ſome particulars of the Europe news; and that all his other letters, to the beſt of his recollection, have been tranſmitted through the hands of Mr. Amyatt.

Agreed, that we write an anſwer to Meſſrs Amyatt and Hay, adviſing them that if they continue to think a rupture with the Nabob is unavoidable, and ſuſpect that he may have deſigns to detain them, or would recommend to them to temporize, in any manner they can to get themſelves out of his hands, without declaring any thing that may give him room to imagine we have ſuch intentions; and further acquaint them with the ſubſtance of the preſident's minute.

No. 50.

Fort William Conſultations 17 June 1763.

RECEIVED a letter from Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay, dated the 8th inſtant, acquainting us, that the Nabob has complained of our troops, which are gone towards Kachar, having ſeized his Daroga appointed for providing alloes wood, and Elephants teeth, &c. that he ſtill continues to repeat, We may declare to him as often as we pleaſe our peaceful intentions, but that he cannot put any confidence in, or believe us, till ſuch time as the troops come from Patna; and that they have drawn on us a bill of exchange for Crs. 2000, payable at 10 days ſight to Mr. Thomas Amphlett. Received alſo a note in cypher, dated the 18th, adviſing us that the Nabob had that day ſent a thouſand horſe towards Moorſhedabad, and that powder and ball is delivered to all the Nabob's forces at Patna.

Received two letters from Mr. Ellis at Patna, dated the 5th and 6th inſtant; the firſt acquainting us, that the Nabob had ſet about inveigling away our Seapoys, by promiſing the men double pay and the officers promotion in rank; and in the attempt has ſucceeded ſo well as to procure the deſertion of 200 men ſince the firſt inſtant, conſiſting of officers and old ſeapoys: that in order to bring all the force he can againſt us, he has made up matters with Kamgar Cawn, and put him in poſſeſſion of his country; and that the Seapoys who were ſtationed there to the number of a thouſand, are returned to Patna. The ſecond letter adviſes us, that the ſeapoys ſtill continuing to deſert in great numbers, he has ordered the whole party to be in readineſs to march at a moment's warning, and thereby intitled them to Batta, as the only means of putting a ſtop to the deſertion.

Agreed, we add a further paragraph to the letter for Mr. Ellis, acknowledging the receipt of theſe, and acquainting him, that notwithſtanding the great expence which will be incurred by putting the detachment on Batta, yet we muſt concur in and approve of that meaſure, until the preſent diſputes with the Nabob are brought to an iſſue.

No. 51.

The 18th of June 1763.

At a conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,

Thomas Adams, Eſquire, Major,——William Billers, Eſquire,——John Cartier, Eſquire, Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,——Randolph Marriot, Eſquire——Hugh Watts, Eſquire.

RECEIVED this day the following letters from Meſſrs Amyatt and Hay at Mongheer, one dated the 11th, acquainting us that they wiſh impatiently for the receipt of our orders, in anſwer to their letter of the 26th ultimo, as from that time they have not had any meeting with the Nabob, or entered on any buſineſs, he always inſiſting on the removal of our troops from Patna, and ſatisfaction for the grievances done him; further that three of their gentlemen having been that morning ſtopped, as they were out a riding, by a party of the Nabob's horſe, and brought back to camp in a diſgraceful manner, they had wrote to the Nabob on the ſubject, and ſhould tranſmit us his anſwer. A note in cypher, of the ſame date, informs us, that the Nabob will never treat: That parties of horſe are all round them, to prevent their eſcape; and if they are detained, they deſire us to purſue meaſures for the Engliſh honour, without regarding them; that 500 men are ordered to Bengal; that Burdwan and about Calcutta will be attacked; that the Nabob's forces every where are ſix battalions of Seapoys and 30,000 horſe; that their Dauke Coſſids will be drove away. Their laſt letter is dated the 12th, and adviſes us, that the Nabob has ſent orders to Shir Ally Cawn, to ſend all his collections in grain, and to prevent any body's purchaſing in Purnea; and complains that Mr. Peacock

has rented all Morung Junguls from the Zemindar for 5000 Rs. and that duties are demande at Burdwan on the cloth his people are purchaſing as uſual at Keerpoy: It further incloſes us a copy of the Nabob's anſwer to their laſt mentioned letter, wherein they obſerve that his people, to juſtify their proceeding, had miſrepreſented the affair to the Nabob, for that their gentlemen who rode out had no kind of arms with them; and that they have yet received no ſatisfaction for the affront: they alſo incloſe us copies of a letter, received from Patna, which clears up the affair of the rice.

The board, having duly conſidered the ſubſtance of theſe letters from Mongheer, are of opinion, that from the intelligence contained in the note of the 11th, and the aggravating circumſtances which daily occur between Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay, and the Nabob, it will not be in their power to effect an accommodation; and although we do not immediately declare a rupture, that we ought to be provided againſt ſuch an event, and form a plan for guiding the operations of our army, if a war does enſue.

It is agreed, therefore, in order to form a front for the protection of the Company's Aurungs and lands, to ſecure their inveſtment and revenues in the beſt manner poſſible, and to endeavour to collect what we can from the other provinces, to anſwer the expences of the war, that our troops be immediately prepared for taking poſt.

No. 52.

The 23d of June, 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,

Thomas Adams, Eſquire, Major,——William Billers, Eſquire,—John Cartier, Eſquire,—Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,—Randolph Marriot, Eſquire,—Hugh Watts, Eſquire.

RECEIVED a letter from Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay, dated the 14th inſtant, adviſing us, That it appears to them from the Nabob's diſpoſing of his troops, and what he has dropt in converſation that he intends at the ſame time attacking both Burdwan and the troops in Patna, in hopes of ſubduing them before they can be ſecured: That he continues to treat them with the greateſt ſlight, and they almoſt daily meet with inſults from his people: That they are doubtful what the event may be on their delivering to him the governor's letter, which expreſsly requires the releaſe of the arms; as the laſt time they were with him, he told them that peace or war depended on the removing our troops from Patna, with which, if we complied, he would then talk on buſineſs: That their gentlemen were again ſtopped that morning at the ſame Chokey, and carried priſoners to the Nabob through his army; for which he has been pleaſed to ſay he has confined his people, and will give them ſatisfaction; and that they have drawn on us a bill of exchange in favour of Mr. Anſelm Beaumont for Crs. of 610.

Received alſo a note in cypher, dated the 15th, adviſing us, that they delivered the governor's letter to the Nabob that morning; on reading which, he immediately declared there was war, but told them that they might wait till they received the governor and council's orders, and ſend him under their hands and ſeals the amount of them, when, in caſe they did not order down our troops at Patna, he would ſend them paſſports to go to Calcutta; but that he would detain Mr. Hay for ſecurity of his Aumils and people in our hands being delivered up; That they concluded the Nabob's view in this is principally the ſafety of Petruſe, and therefore recommended the immediate ſecuring of that man, as Mr. Hay's only ſecurity, who has agreed to remain with the Nabob.

Ordered, the Mongheer bill to be accepted and paid: And,

In conſequence of Meſſrs. Amyatt's and Hay's repreſentation,

Agreed, That the preſident be deſired to keep a ſtrict watch over Petruſe; and in caſe he ſhould make any attempt to quit the ſettlement, immediately to ſecure him.

Received two letters from Mr. Johnſtone, at Burdwan, dated the 20th inſtant, giving us a particular account of the intelligence which he has received of the motions of the Nabob's troops, and their deſigns againſt Burdwan province; and therefore requeſting that he may be properly reinforced, to endeavour to render their attempts unſucceſsful.

No. 53.

The 2d July, 1763.

At a conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.

Thomas Adams, Eſquire, Major, —— John Carnac, Eſquire, Major. —— William Billers, Eſquire. —— John Cartier, Eſquire. —— Warren Haſtings, Eſquire. —— Randolph Marriott, Eſquire. —— Hugh Watts, Eſquire.

RECEIVED a letter from Coſſimbuzar, dated the 28th June, acquainting us particularly with the circumſtances of the ſtoppage of our danke, &c. that it is reported with them the occaſion thereof is owing to Mr. Amyatt's proceeding to Patna after having been refuſed leave by the Nabob: that at Duckery bridge he met with ſome oppoſition from the Nabob's troops, but made his way good; and its ſaid he left one gentleman a priſoner behind: that they can by no means depend upon this for fact; but from the concurrent circumſtances of not having received any packet from Patna theſe three days, they thought it neceſſary to acquaint us: they further enclote an indent for medicines, which they requeſt may be complied with; and inform us, that as the times are ſo precarious they ſhall not make any further advances for the inveſtment without our orders.

Received a letter from Mr. Johnſtone at Burdwan, dated the 30th June, acquainting us, that the inhabitants on the frontier towards Cutwall, are under great apprehenſions of the Nabob's people, and that 40 buxeries from Cutwall came in the night, and carried off one of the farmers: He therefore requeſts to know, whether Lieut. Glen might not advance to that frontier with 600 ſeapoys; or, if we keep yet on terms with the Nabob, whether a company or two might be ſtationed there to check any diſturbance to the Ryotts from the Phouſdary of Cutwall? and deſires to know further, whether he is to ſend pay for Captain Long's party at Amboa?

The preſident acquaints the board, that in a letter of the ſame date from Lieutenant Glen, he is adviſed that the troops at Cutwall remain in the ſame ſituation as he wrote in his laſt, and are building bungloos: that he (Lieutenant Glen) thinks that the apprehenſions of the inhabitants ariſes from the calling in their ſeapoys; and that if they had a proper force ſtationed in the frontiers, the heart of the province would continue quiet.

No. 54.

The 4th July, 1763.

At a Conſultation: PRESENT.

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident.

Thomas Adams, Eſquire, Major. —— John Carnac, Eſquire, Major. —— William Billers, Eſquire. —— John Cartier, Eſquire. —— Warren Haſtings, Eſquire. —— Randolph Marriott, Eſquire. —— Hugh Watts, Eſquire.

RECEIVED the following note in cypher, directed on the back, "To William Ellis, Eſquire:

"We are made priſoners, as far as the ſeizing our boats and ſurrounding of us can make "us; the boats with arms were ſtopped a few miles from hence.

"Mongheer, the 21ſt June, 1763.

"N. B. To the bearer give 100 rupees."

The preſident acquaints the board, that this note came to him this morning by the hands of a Harcara, from whom, upon a ſtrict examination, he received alſo the following report; that Mr. Amyatt diſpatched at the ſame time a note to Calcutta, and another to Patna, which through miſtake of the head Harcara may have been exchanged, and occaſioned the Patna note coming here: that he (the Harcara) heard the Engliſh troops at Patna had taken the city: that Mr. Luſhington came down near to Mongheer with a battalion of Seapoys; and that Mr. Amyatt having joined him, they returned to Patna: and that Bahadre Aly Cawn, one of the Nabob's principal officers, had joined Mr. Ellis.

Although particulars of this news are not to be depended on, yet the members of the board think it ſufficient to ſhew that the breach between the Nabob and us is now irreparable.

No. 55.

The 5th July 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident,

Thomas Adams, Eſq; Major,——John Carnac, Eſq; Major,——William Billers, Eſquire, ——John Cartier, Eſq;——Warren Haſtings, Eſq;——Randolph Marriot, Eſquire, ——Hugh Watts, Eſq;

RECEIVED two letters from Mr. Amyatt, the firſt dated from Siepgunge the 25th June, adviſing us, that from all the Nabob's actions Mr. Hay and he judge that he intends war, and that he will attack our troops at Patna: That, four days before the date of his letter, an Armenian commander, with a ſtrong reinforcement of horſe, foot, and cannon, went to Patna: That the Armenians ſolely manage him, and urge the diſputes. The laſt is dated from Looty, the 30th June, and adviſes us, that on his arrival at Coſſimbuzar factory, he ſhall comply with our orders of the 23d, and proceed himſelf to Calcutta, if conſiſtent with his ſafety; that the Nabob has ſent a man with him, and given him a Duſtuck for him and his party to proceed to Calcutta.

Agreed, we write an anſwer to Mr. Amyatt's letters, acquainting him, that as our intelligence of yeſterday has proved falſe, we ſhall ſuſpend our determinations until his arrival; and that we therefore deſire he will proceed to Calcutta as faſt as poſſible, either without his party, or with ſuch a part of it as he ſhall eſteem neceſſary for his ſafety.

Henry Vanſittart,
W. Billers,
Warren Haſtings,
Ran. Marriott,
H. Watts.

No. 56.

The 6th July 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident,

Thomas Adams, Eſq; Major,——John Carnac, Eſq; Major,——William Billers, Eſquire, ——John Cartier, Eſq;——Warren Haſtings, Eſq;——Randolph Marriot, Eſquire, ——Hugh Watts, Eſq;

LATE laſt night we received a letter from Coſſimbuzar, dated the 3d, adviſing us, that Mr. Amphlett's conſumah had juſt made his eſcape from his Maſter's Budgerow, and brought them accounts, that Mr. Amyatt, attempting to go there, was ſtopped, upon which he made ſome reſiſtance: That Lieutenant Cooper and ſome Seapoys were killed, and the whole made priſoners.

The preſident further reports to the board, that this morning the two packets diſpatched to Coſſimbuzar the 2d and 3d, were returned from Agur Deep, with a letter from the writer of the Daukes at that Chokey, adviſing of all the Chokeys between that and Coſſimbuzar being drove away; that he had heard Mr. Amyatt and his party were attacked by the phouſdar of Rajamaul's people; that one or two Gentlemen had been killed, and the reſt taken priſoners; and that he was informed Mahomed Tucky Cawn had received orders to ſurround Coſſimbuzar factory.

After this the board are unanimouſly of opinion, that they have no further reſolutions, but to make the beſt uſe of our forces, for bringing the war to a ſpeedy concluſion, and firmly eſtabliſhing the Nabob Meer Jaffier again in the government.

No. 57.

The 7th July 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident,

Thomas Adams, Eſq; Major,——John Carnac, Eſq; Major,——William Billers, Eſquire, ——John Cartier, Eſq;——Warren Haſtings, Eſq;——Randolph Marriot, Eſquire, ——Hugh Watts, Eſq;

RECEIVED a letter from Mr. Johnſtone at Burdwan, dated the 5th, incloſing the following note from Mr. Motte:

Sir,

Sir,

I have juſt received advice, that yeſterday Mr. Amyatt's party on their return from Mongheer were attacked, and put to the ſword, by Mahomed Tuckey Cawn. Two Gentlemen much wounded are eſcaped to Mahutter, and I have ſent palankeens to fetch them hither; who they are, I know not; but they are in a moſt miſerable condition. I hear alſo, Coſſimbuzar factory is ſurrounded.

I am, Sir,

Kewgong, the 4th July 1763. Your moſt humble Servant,

T. Motte.

Alſo, another letter from him, dated the 6th, confirming the melancholy news of Mr. Amyatt's party being cut off by the Nabob's people, in proceeding from Moradbang to the factory at Coſſimbuzar, as it has been related to him, by a Harildar and Seapoy of the grenadier company, who have eſcaped, and were witneſſes of what paſſed. The Gentlemen of the deputation to the Nabob (Meer Jaffier) report to the board, that they waited on him again this morning, and delivered him the articles copied in the Perſian language, which he partly read; but before he would proceed further, ſtill requiring that Nundcomar might be appointed to his aſſiſtance; they applied to the governor for his releaſe, who immediately ordered it, and they preſented him to the Nabob. That he then peruſed the articles with Nundcomar, and agreed to them under a few exceptions, which he ſaid, he would ſpecify in a copy which he would himſelf draw up, and promiſed to ſign and ratify them as ſoon afterwards as they could be got ready.

Agreed therefore, that the treaty be made ready for ſigning as ſoon as poſſible; and that in the mean time the following proclamation be engroſſed fair, and to-morrow ſigned and publiſhed throughout the town.

No. 58.

Copy of the Proclamation of the Nabob Meer Jaffier.

Conſultation, 7th July 1763.

THE Nabob Meer Mahomed Coſſim Allee Cawn having entered upon and committed acts of open hoſtility againſt the Engliſh nation, and the intereſt of the Engliſh United Eaſt India Company, we on their behalf are reduced to the neceſſity of declaring war againſt him; and having come to a reſolution of placing the Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn Bahader again in the government, we now proclaim and acknowledge him as Subahdar of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa; and further, as the ſaid Coſſim Allee Cawn has likewiſe exerciſed acts of violence and oppreſſions over many of the principal merchants and inhabitants of the country, to their entire ruin, we do hereby require all manner of perſons under our juriſdiction, and alſo invite all other officers and inhabitants of the country, to repair to the ſtandard of Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn Bahader, to aſſiſt him in defeating the deſigns of the ſaid Coſſim Allee Cawn, and finally eſtabliſhing himſelf in the Subahdarree.

Given in Council at Fort William, the 7th day of July 1763, under our hands and the ſeal of the ſaid United Eaſt India Company.

Henry Vanſittart.
Thomas Adams.
John Carnac.
Stanlake Batſon.
William Billiers.
John Cartier.
Warren Haſtings.
Randolph Marriot.
Hugh Watts.

L. S.

John Graham,
Secretary.

No. 59.

The 8th July 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident,

Thomas Adams, Eſq; Major,——John Carnac, Eſq; Major,——William Billers, Eſquire, ——John Cartier, Eſq;——Warren Haſtings, Eſq;——Randolph Marriott, Eſquire, ——Hugh Watts, Eſq;

RECEIVED the following note from Coſſimbuzar, dated the 4th July, at ten at night.

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

We yeſterday informed you of the fate of Mr. Amyatt and his party. We were then in expectation of being ſurrounded; and now forces are all around us with cannon, and we expect to be attacked before morning. We do our beſt to keep the factory till relief can be given us, to which purpoſe we have wrote to Amboa, or where the party reported to be marched may be.

We are, honourable Sir and Sirs,

6 or 7,000 men and 8 pieces cannon now are on the road, 'tis ſaid.

Your moſt obedient humble Servants,
John Chambers.
J. P. Lyon.

Read again the tranſlation of the letter, received laſt night from the Nabob Coſſim Aly Cawn; which having likewiſe conſidered,

The board are of opinion, that it leaves no room to doubt that our troops at Patna have met with a defeat; and therefore think that Major Adams ſhould be inſtructed to proceed with caution, and leave nothing in his rear which may in any manner endanger the ſettlement.

The proclamation drawn up laſt night, being wrote fair, was now laid before the board ready for ſigning; whereupon the preſident and Mr. Haſtings entered the following minutes:

The preſident, ſenſible that it will be more for the public ſervice we ſhould appear unanimous in every meaſure now entered upon for proſecuting the war againſt Coſſim Aly Cawn with the utmoſt vigour, and ſupporting the alliance with Jaffier Aly Cawn, to re-eſtabliſh him in the government; and particularly, that it will be a ſatisfaction to the Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn; conſents to ſign the proclamation, and all other public deeds which ſhall be made in conſequence: Now recording once for all, that he does not mean hereby to prejudice his former declarations and opinions entered on the conſultations.

Mr. Haſting's Minute

It is long ſince I foreboded that our diſputes with the Nabob would terminate in an open rupture; but as from the ill opinion which I had of his ſtrength, I expected that our contentions with him would be of a very ſhort duration, nor otherwiſe affect the intereſt of the Company than in the further ill conſequences of a broken and diſordered ſtate; and as I had not the ſame tie upon me with the preſident, with reſpect to any military charge, it was my reſolution, as ſoon as war ſhould be declared, to reſign the Company's ſervice, being unwilling on the one hand to give authority to paſt meaſures of which I diſapproved, and of a new eſtabliſhment which I judged detrimental to the honour and intereſts of the Company; and apprehenſive on the other, that my continuance at the board might ſerve only to prejudice than advance the good of the ſervice, in keeping alive, by my preſence, the diſputes which have ſo long diſturbed our councils, and retarding the public buſineſs by continual diſſents and proteſts: But ſince our late melancholy advices give us reaſon to apprehend a dangerous and troubleſome war; and from the unparalleled acts of barbarity and treachery with which it has opened on the part of the Nabob, it is become the duty of every Britiſh ſubject to unite in the ſupport of the common cauſe; it is my intention to join my endeavours for the good of the ſervice, not as long as the war ſhall laſt, but as long as the troubles conſequent from it may endanger either the Company's affairs or the ſafety of this colony: On the ſame principle, and to remove every appearance of diſunion amongſt ourſelves, I will freely ſet my hand to the declaration publiſhed by the board; though I ſtill abide by the ſentiments which I have all along expreſſed in the meaſures taken in the courſe of all our diſputes with the Nabob here, by confirming all that I have declared in my former proteſts and minutes, which ſtand upon record in our conſultations.

Theſe minutes being entered, the proclamation was ſigned by the whole board, as recorded on laſt night's conſultation.

No. 60.

The 9th July 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq; Preſident,

John Carnac, Eſq;——William Billers, Eſq;——John Cartier, Eſq;——Warren Haſtings, Eſq; ——Randolph Marriott, Eſq;——Hugh Watts, Eſq;

RECEIVED a letter from Mr. Johnſtone at Burdwan, dated the 7th inſtant, acquainting us, that he had received advice of Coſſim Aly Cawn's having ſent Camgar Cawn with a detachment of 6,000 horſe and 5,000 foot by the way of the hills to enter Burdwan; and that if he drives us out of it, he is to have the Zemindarry of Beerboom.

No. 61.

The 11th July 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
John Carnac, Eſquire,
William Billers, Eſquire,
John Cartier, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Hugh Watts, Eſquire.

THE treaty with the Nabob Myr Mahomed Jaffier Cawn having been finally executed yeſterday between him and the members of the council, is now brought in and read at the board.

Ordered, That a copy of it be here recorded, and the original depoſited with the other treaties.

No. 62.

Extract from Mr. Fullerton's Letter to the Board.

MR. Ellis, with the reſt of the gentlemen, were inhumanly butchered by Shimroo, who came that evening to the place with two companies (he had, the day before, ſent for all the knives and forks from the gentlemen) he ſurrounded the houſe with his people, and went into a little outer ſquare, and ſent for Meſſieurs Ellis, Hay, and Luſhington, and with them came ſix other gentlemen; who were all terribly mangled and cut to pieces, and their bodies thrown into a well in the ſquare, and it filled up; then the ſeepoys were ſent into the large ſquare, and fired on the gentlemen there, and ruſhing upon them, cut them into pieces in the moſt inhuman manner, and they were thrown into another large well, which was likewiſe filled up.

The 7th, the Nabob ſent for me, and told me to get myſelf in readineſs to go to Calcutta, for that though he had been unlucky in the war (which he aſſerted with great warmth had not been of his ſeeking, nor had he been the aggreſſor, reproaching the Engliſh with want of fidelity, and breach of treaty) yet he ſaid he had ſtill hopes of an accommodation. He aſked me, what I thought of it? I told him, I made no doubt of it. When ſome of his people who were preſent mentioned the affair of Mr. Amyatt's death, he declared that he had never given any orders for killing Mr. Amyatt, but after receiving advice of Mr. Ellis having attacked Patna, he had ordered all his ſervants to take and impriſon all the Engliſh in the provinces, wherever they could find them; he likewiſe added, that if a treaty was not ſet afoot, he would bring the King, the Morattas, and Abdallas, againſt us, and ſo ruin our trade, &c. He had finiſhed his letters, and ordered boats and a guard to conduct me, when upon the advice of ſome of his people he ſtopped me, and ſaid, there was no occaſion for me to go. After his ſending for me at firſt, he ordered the ſeapoys, in whoſe charge I was, to go to their quarters, two Moguls and twelve Hircarras to attend me, but to let me go about the city where I pleaſed. I then applied for liberty to ſtay at the Dutch factory, which was granted. I applied to Mendee Allee Cawn for his intereſt in behalf of the gentlemen in the Chelſton, who were ſeven in number, and were not killed till the 11th of October; but when he was petitioned about them, he gave no anſwer; but ſtill ſent orders to Shimroo to cut them off. I likewiſe applied to Allee Ibrahim Cawn, who interceded for them; but he gave him no anſwer either, though I was preſent when Ibrahim Cawn petitioned for them.

The 14th of October, on the approach of our army, Coſſim Allee decamped with his troops in great confuſion, and marched as far as Fulwarre, five coſs to the weſtward of the city. The Hircarras that were with me having no orders about me, I gave them ſome money, which made them pretty eaſy.

The 25th, after giving money to a jemmatdar, that had the guard to the weſtward of the Dutch factory, by the river ſide, I ſet out in a ſmall pulwar, and got ſafe to the boats under command of Captain Wedderburn, that were lying oppoſite to the city, on the other ſide of the river; and at eleven o'clock that night, arrived at the army under the command of Major Adams, lying at Jonſy.

No. 63.

Fort William Conſultations, 17th September 1763.

Letter from the Governor to Coſſim Ally Cawn.

I Have received from Major Adams the copy of your letter to him, dated the laſt of Suffer. Mr. Amyatt and Mr. Hay were ſent to you as embaſſadors, a title ſacred among all nations, yet in violation of that title you cauſe Mr. Amyatt to be attacked and killed on his return, after having given him your paſſports; and Mr. Hay you unjuſtly kept as a priſoner with you:—You ſurrounded and attacked our factory at Coſſimbuzar, and carried away our gentlemen from thence priſoners, in a moſt diſgraceful manner, to Mongheer, although they

had

had no concern in the war, nor reſiſted your people. In like manner, in all other parts you attacked the Engliſh agents, who were carrying on their trade quietly; ſome you killed, and ſome were carried away priſoners, and their effects every where plundered:—After theſe proceedings, do you aſk for what reaſon Major Adams was ſent with an army?—You know the laws of God and man. It's you declared you would turn the Engliſh out of the country, and had proceeded as far as you could towards it; it became neceſſary for us to take meaſures for our own defence, and for the care of our own reputation: thanks be to God that ſucceſs has attended our army thus far! and they will continue their march in the ſame manner as far as the Carramnaſſa, that the country may be freed from diſturbances, and the inhabitants relieved from the horrors of war. And although we are ſhocked, as muſt all people, of all religions and all nations, at the revenge which you threaten to take upon the lives of our chiefs, who have been unfortunately and unjuſtly taken priſoners by you, yet the honour of our nation, and the intereſts of the Company will not be ſacrificed to this conſideration, nor the operations of the army ſtopped. To put priſoners of war to death, is an act which will appear ſhocking and unlawful, not only to Chriſtians and Muſſelmen, but to the moſt barbarous Pagans; ſuch ſentiments are no where to be met with but among the beaſts of the field. After the battle of Ouda Nulla above a thouſand of your officers and men were priſoners in the hands of Major Adams, who releaſed them without the leaſt hurt or injury:—Reflect on this, and on your own character, both in this world and the next; and remember alſo, that if you had followed my advice, this war would not have happened.

No. 64.

The Mongheer Treaty.

FIRST, That for all trade imported or to be exported by ſhipping, the Company's duſtuck ſhall be granted, and it ſhall paſs unmoleſted, and free of cuſtoms as uſual.

Second. For all trade from one place in the country to another, in commodities produced in the country, as ſalt, beetle-nut, tobacco, &c. the Company's duſtuck ſhall not be granted; but it ſhall go with the duſtuck of the buxbunder, ſhahbunder, or other officer of the country government.

Third. That at the time of taking out the ſaid duſtuck, and before the diſpatch of the goods, the duties ſhall be paid according to the rates which ſhall be particularly ſettled, and annexed to this agreement.

Fourth. That the ſaid duties ſo to be paid before exportation ſhall be the whole that are to be paid; ſo that after the diſpatch of the goods, nothing ſhall be paid at any chokeys in the road, nor at the place of ſale.

Fifth. That all the goods being furniſhed either with the Company's duſtuck or that of the government, ſhall meet with no obſtruction or delay. The guards and chokeys on the road ſhall have nothing more to do than to demand a ſight of the duſtuck, unleſs they ſhall obſerve the boats to be laden with a larger quantity of goods than are mentioned in the duſtuck; in which caſe they are to give immediate notice to the neareſt Engliſh factory, as well as to the neareſt officer of the government, that orders may be ſent to have a ſtrict examination; but they are not to detain them in the road.

Sixth. If any one ſhould attempt to paſs goods without a duſtuck, either from the government or the company, or ſhall clandeſtinely procure a company's duſtuck to paſs ſalt, tobacco, or other produce of the country, from place to place for inland trade, ſuch goods ſhall be ſeized, and confiſcated; the guards and chokeys in the road are to ſtop them, and to give notice to the neareſt Engliſh factory, as well as the neareſt officer of the government.

Seventh. If any perſon not having a duſtuck ſhall attempt to paſs boats or goods clandeſtinely, under the cover of, and in company with, other boats or goods having a duſtuck, ſuch boats or goods ſo attempted to be paſſed clandeſtinely, ſhall be ſeized and confiſcated.

Eighth. The gomaſtahs in every place ſhall carry on their trade freely, and as merchants; and ſhall on no account uſe force in buying or ſelling: if any diſputes ariſe in the courſe of their buſineſs, they ſhall not attempt to redreſs themſelves; but ſhall make their complaints to the fouzedar or other officer of the government, and have the matter tried before him: in like manner, if any merchant or inhabitant ſhall be aggrieved by any Engliſh gomaſtah, he ſhall make his complaint to the fouzedar, or other officers of the government; and the gomaſtah being duly ſummoned ſhall appear before him to anſwer to the charge, and have the matter determined.

Ninth. To deter the fouzedars, and other officers of the government, from being guilty of any partiality, they ſhall be enjoined to tranſmit to the Nabob copies of their proceedings, upon all trials where Engliſh agents or gomaſtahs are concerned; and likewiſe to give a copy to the agent or gomaſtah, who, if he thinks himſelf aggrieved, may ſend the ſame to his principal, and he may make his complaint to the Preſident, who, if the caſe requires it, will apply to the Nabob for redreſs; and when any fouzedar or other officer of the government ſhall prove guilty of ſuch partiality, the Nabob ſhall puniſh him in the moſt exemplary manner.

No.

No. 65.

Mr. Amyatt's Minute.

Fort William, the 5th April, 1762.

THE minute given in by the Preſident the 22d March, has not in the leaſt altered the ſentiments of Mr. Amyatt, in regard to the demand propoſed by him to be made from Coſſim Aly Cawn, of the twenty laaks of rupees for the uſe of the Company, as he finds nothing in the minute to invalidate the reaſon which induced him to propoſe that the demand ſhould be made; nor did any minute or expreſſion of Mr. Van Sittart's ever imply ſuch money was not to be received, but the contrary; and only reſted the payment of it to the Nabob's generoſity, after his other expences were defrayed, which was not riſking much; for whilſt we remain ſo powerful in this country, ſuch a promiſe the Nabob will look on as binding as a bond; and the taking a bond might bear a bad appearance; for it's acknowledged that a paper was received from him, containing a promiſe of 20 laaks of rupees to Meſſrs. Van Sittart, Caillaud, Holwell, Sumner, and M'Gwire. Now it's not to be imagined he would have offered ſo large a ſum to theſe gentlemen, to the excluſion of the other members of the council and ſelect committee (an offer before unprecedented) but as a conſideration to engage them to conclude with him a treaty, from whence he was to reap ſo much advantage, without regard to the opinions of the reſt of the board: as therefore they could have no right to receive money upon ſuch terms, and Mr. Amyatt is willing to believe they have not, if they thought proper of themſelves to ſign a treaty on the part of our honourable maſters, the conſideration for ſo doing ought to be paid to thoſe who were to be the only loſers in caſe of ill conſequences ariſing therefrom. The parallels between the preſent received by Mr. Amyatt in common with the whole board, as well as with the army and navy, and this of twenty laak, intended for five gentlemen only, is as unjuſt as it would be to make a parallel between the two revolutions; the one eſtabliſhed in conſequence of the overthrow of a common enemy, the other in direct breach of the former engagements; the act of only part of the council, and to which, had all its members been conſulted, the majority would probably have objected. Mr. Amyatt wiſhes he could agree with the Preſident, that the Nabob is well diſpoſed towards us: if that were the caſe, there would be no neceſſity at this time of our ſending Mr. Haſtings up to him; the whole tenor of his conduct demonſtrates the contrary; he is keeping up and daily increaſing a rabble of an army at an immenſe expence, which he can do from no other motive than from diſtruſt, and a deſire of being independent of us; as he may command, by virtue of the treaty, the ſervice of our troops for all occaſions: he now remains at the extremity of the country, through his ſuſpicions of us; and, in order to be at a greater diſtance from our ſettlements, has determined on removing the ſeat of his government to Rajahmahal; and indeed it is no wonder he ſhould entertain theſe ſuſpicions, as he can have no ſecurity that we will keep our faith with him better than we did with his father-in-law; to whom we were bound by engagements more ſolemn than thoſe ſince entered into with him; nor can he ever acquit himſelf of his treachery to Jaffier Aly Cawn, which muſt ever keep alive the ſuſpicions now burning in his breaſt.—Mr. Amyatt does not allow the ſmalleſt degree of merit to Coſſim Aly Cawn, for having diſcharged the payments due to the Company and his troops: his being in a condition to do ſo was entirely owing to the happy change of affairs, by the defeat of the Shahzadah: the ſame ſucceſs would have equally enabled Meer Jaffier to do ſo. But moreover Coſſim Aly Cawn has taken the opportunity of the tranquillity of the country to commit the moſt unheard-of exactions and oppreſſions, and (as a farther proof of his regard for us) more particularly againſt ſuch as were our avowed friends, Ramnarain with many others are now the unhappy inſtances thereof; by the giving up of whom, and becoming in every thing ſince ſubſervient to the Nabob's views, without keeping up any intereſt or friendſhip with any other of the leading men in the country, there is not a man of any rank or conſequence that dare ſo much as viſit or have the leaſt connections with any of our chiefs or commanders, as their letters to this board at different times teſtify.

No. 66.

Fort William Conſultation, 4th July, 1763.

MAJOR Carnac now delivers in his opinion, in the manner following, viz.

"Though Major Carnac entirely diſapproved the revolution in favour of Coſſim Aly Cawn, "and did not deem the authority, by which it was effected, ſufficient, from a conviction, if "the whole council had been conſulted, the majority would have been againſt it; yet, from "the moment we had the advice of our employers having acquieſced therein, it became our "common duty to ſupport to the utmoſt the new Nizam, ſo long as our rights and privileges "were not infringed by him; and the Major can ſafely aver, no perſon at the board is more "truly concerned than himſelf at the meaſures we are under the indiſpenſable neceſſity of "taking. The Nabob Coſſim Aly Cawn has, for ſome time paſt, ſhewn ſuch an indiſpoſi-"tion towards us as would render it the height of folly to place any confidence in him; and,

"however

" however inclined the board have ſhewn themſelves by their long forbearance, and their " ſending deputies, to the eſtabliſhment of a mutual friendſhip, he has, by his late acts, " abſolutely put it out of our power, conſiſtently with honour, to come to an accommodation " with him; we ſhall therefore be juſtified to the Company and the world, in exerting our " endeavours for the reſtoration of Meer Jaffier, an atonement which Major Carnac looks upon " as due to him for the injuſtice which he thinks was done him in depoſing him; and he is of " opinion he ſhould be proclaimed at Calcutta, and taken up by Major Adams to Moorſheda- " bad, and there placed upon the Muſnud; and that a manifeſto ſhould be publiſhed, ſetting " forth the reaſons for the change of government; and there is no doubt but that as " Meer Jaffier, from the conſideration in which he has for many years been held, muſt have a " number of friends, ſeveral of the moſt conſiderable perſons in the country will flock to his " ſtandard.

" Major Carnac begs leave to ſubmit to the board the terms which, in his opinion, " ſhould be made the ground work of a treaty to be concluded between us and the " Meer Jaffier.

" The confirmation of the ceſſion of the three provinces of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chit- " tagong, with this alteration, that they be now made over to us in property, inſtead of their " revenues only being aſſigned to us, as is the caſe at preſent.

" An univerſal freedom of trade to be allowed us, and the other privileges which the deputies " were commiſſioned to demand of Coſſim Aly Cawn.

" The defraying the expences of the war, and a full indemnification to be made to the " private ſufferers, as well as to the public, for all loſſes ſuſtained. To enable Meer Jaffier to " do ſo immediately, the treaſure of Coſſim Aly Cawn, if laid hold of, to be put into his " hands; but in caſe of failure herein, the revenues of the Nuddea province to be mortgaged " to us till every body is reimburſed.

" The farm of the Purnea Petre to be given to the Company.

" The ill conſequence of ſuffering an overgrowth of power in a Nabob being but too " apparent, he ſhould in future be limited in the number of his forces, as to be obliged to have " his main dependence upon thoſe of the Engliſh: the principal of our troops ſhould therefore " be ſtationed at Burrumpoor (where there is a piece of ground already marked out and given to " us) where proper cantonments may be erected for them at the Nabob's expence, and the " ſingle batta alſo paid by him. There they will be at hand to be detached wherever he has " occaſion for their ſervices; and this diſpoſition will preſerve our military, it being a very " healthy ſpot; whereas they have fatally experienced (the two laſt ſeaſons particularly) the " unhealthineſs of Calcutta."

No. 67.

Fort William, the 8th December, 1763.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
Commodore John Bn. Tinker,
Warren Haſtings,
Randolph Marriott,
Hugh Watts,
A. William Senior, Eſquires.

AGREED we write a letter to Major Adams, acquainting him that we have paid due attention to the contents of his, as well as of the other letters from Shuja Dowla, Shitabroy, &c. That we ſhall immediately fix on ſome proper perſon to ſend as our agent to Shuja Dowla's court, from whom being informed of the ſtate and intereſts of the ſeveral chiefs of the empire, we may be enabled to judge of any particular engagements Shuja Dowla may propoſe to enter into with the Company. That in the mean time we have determined thus far, that Shuja Dowla's dominions lying contiguous to the provinces of Bengal, it will be for our mutual intereſts to maintain a friendſhip and defenſive alliance; and that we do therefore empower him to promiſe in our name that we ſhall be ready to aſſiſt Shujah Dowla, either againſt Coſſim Aly Cawn, or any other enemy who may invade or attack his dominions: that in return however we ſhall expect from him to declare himſelf openly an enemy of Coſſim Aly Cawn, and uſe his utmoſt endeavours to ſeize and deliver him up with all his effects: and unleſs an alliance of this nature is firſt concluded with Shujah Dowla, or an invitation received from him, Beny Bahadre, or ſome other officer of note empowered to make it, we would not have our army paſs the Caramnaſſa: that if in return for this advance of ours towards an alliance, Shuja Dowla on his part incline to ſend a principal perſon to treat at Calcutta, we deſire he will furniſh him with the neceſſary paſſports; but that if, contrary to our expectations, Shujah Dowla ſhould join his army with Coſſim Aly Cawn, we deſire he will on the firſt appearance of ſuch a junction write to Shujah Dowla in high terms; declaring that we look upon it as an open act of hoſtility againſt us, and ſhall purſue him with all our forces wherever he goes.— That he (the Major) will accordingly in ſuch caſe adviſe us, and we ſhall immediately, with the aſſiſtance

assistance of the squadron, reinforce him to the utmost of our power, to enable him to enter Shujah Dowla's dominions—That we observe from these letters Shujah Dowla and Beny Behadre are desirous of our becoming security for the payment of the King's revenues, in return for the subadary saneds to be granted to the Nabob; but this we would on no account agree to; neither do we think, considering the King's present situation, and the state of the empire, that these saneds are of any such consequence as to make the Nabob anxious for obtaining them at the great expence which has hitherto attended applications to the court—That of these our sentiments he will acquaint the Nabob, and recommend to him not to make any promise of money on that head, pointing out to him at the same time that the weight and security he derives from our protection is greatly superior to any that can be conveyed him by these saneds, and that all the money he can collect will be wanted to pay his own troops, and fulfil his agreements with the Company—That from what appears to us of Shuja Dowla's circumstances, we think it very possible he would give all his assistance for obtaining the saneds, for the sake only of our offered alliance—And upon this footing therefore, he (the Major) may acquaint the Nabob that he shall request them—That as these negotiations, the neighbourhood of the King and Shujah Dowlah's army, and the large force with which Cossim Aly Cawn has retired from the province, may open scenes of business of great consequence to our nation in India—we must earnestly repeat our request that he will remain in the command of the army until the event of these doubtful affairs is become more certain.

2d February 1764.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vansittart, Esquire, President.
William Billers, Esquire,
Warren Hastings, Esquire,
Randolph Marriott, Esquire,
Hugh Watts, Esquire,
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire.

To Major John Carnac.

Sir,

Agreeably to the resolution of council the 30th December, you will please to proceed with all expedition to the province of Bahar, and take upon you the command of the army now stationed there. On your arrival at camp you will direct one hundred Europeans and a thousand seepoys to return to Bengal, as we intend a detachment of that force, with two pieces of artillery, shall always be cantoned at Ghyrottee, and kept in readiness to execute any services which may be requisite below.

As Cossim Aly Cawn has now fled out of these provinces, into the dominions of Shuja Dowla, the principal object of the army under your command will be to watch his further motions, and guard and maintain the tranquillity of the frontiers; and you will therefore please to canton the troops as near the boundaries of the province as you may think necessary for these purposes.

From the disposition which the King and Suja Dowla has expressed, in their late letters to us, and the answers which we wrote them, we are in hopes they may determine to surrender Cossim Aly Cawn into our hands; or, at least, by stripping him of his wealth, and obliging him to disband his forces, put it out of his power to give us any further disturbance. But if, contrary to our expectations, they should resolve to join the fortune of Cossim Aly Cawn, and march with their forces towards Bengal, we desire you will advance the army to the banks of the Carumnassa, and oppose and prevent any enemies from entering the country.

Our sentiments regarding the conduct to be observed towards the King and Shuja Dowla, you will find contained in our letter of instructions to the late Major Adams, dated 8 December 1763, of which a copy is herewith delivered for your information. And as the answers to the letters which were wrote also to them at the same time, must pass through your hands, you will be enabled to take your measures according to the advices which they may contain.

In this letter to Major Adams, we transmitted our opinion, with respect to the Nabob's making application for the King's saneds, and which, you will observe, we desired to be communicated to the Nabob. The President likewise then wrote to the Nabob to the same effect; but we are sorry to find, that notwithstanding our counsel, he continues still very earnest in this point, and has actually executed an agreement to pay to the King 28 lacks of rupees annually, with 5 lacks Nuzerrana, with a view of obtaining these saneds, and that he is seeking means to remit above one half of that sum immediately to court. In consequence of this intelligence, we have been under the necessity of sending orders to the commanding officer of the army, of which copies are inclosed for your information. And we cannot help repeating here, that we think this step of the Nabob's a mark of bad policy and great imprudence; for making remittances to the King can only be considered as supplying the finances of Shujah Dowla, who seeks but an opportunity of invading and molesting the Nabob's government, nay, is perhaps at this very period become his open and declared enemy. Besides, admitting the royal confirmation

to be a matter requiſite, either for the public or the Nabob's own private ſatisfaction, it would certainly be a more proper time to apply for it when once all parts of the country have teſtified a firm allegiance to his government, and he has been fully eſtabliſhed in his dominion over it. We ſhall always endeavour to carry ourſelves towards the Nabob in ſuch a manner as to give him no juſt cauſe of diſguſt; but we muſt hope, and our employers will expect, that, for ſuch conduct, he will not be wanting in a ſuitable return, by a proper obſervance of his engagements, and an attention to their intereſt; and that therefore he will, for the preſent, ſet aſide the above-mentioned reſolution, which plainly tends to their injury in both theſe reſpects.

The Nabob has wrote to the Preſident, that it is his intention to return to Calcutta in the month of March next—we deſire therefore you will encourage him therein, as far as you may find opportunities, having many points to ſettle with him, neceſſary for the welfare of his and our government.

As we are informed that the fort of Rotas remains ſtill independent, we deſire you will endeavour to reduce it, in caſe you can find an opportunity; that is to ſay, if it ſhould appear that it can be done without any inconvenience to the other objects of your inſtructions, or occaſioning the loſs of much time and men.

In conſequence of the opinion of yourſelf and the other field officers, that the ſmall body of European cavalry we now maintain, can never prove of ſervice adequate to the great expence which attends their eſtabliſhment, we have determined to reduce them all, excepting one troop, which will be uſeful for the purpoſes of patrolling and reconnoitring. We deſire therefore you will incorporate the officers and men with the battalion, and order the horſes to be diſpoſed of to the beſt advantage, after completing the troop commanded by Captain George Hay, which we mean ſhall ſtand to ſixty private, and its proper officers.

Senſible of your regard for the Company's intereſt, we need hardly recommend to you to have in view the reduction of the expences of the army, whenever, and as far as the nature of the ſervices you have to execute will admit.

We rely entirely on your prudence, courage, and good conduct; and wiſhing you always health and ſucceſs, we are, with eſteem, &c.

R. LEYCESTER. HENRY VAN SITTART.

23d February 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Preſident,
William Billers, Eſq.
Warren Haſtings, Eſq.
Randolph Marriott, Eſq.
Hugh Watts, Eſq.
Samuel Middleton, Eſq.
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſq.
John Burdett, Eſq.

To the Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſq. Preſident and Governor of Fort William.

Honourable Sir,

I am extremely ſorry to inform you, that notwithſtanding all endeavours to keep the troops in due bounds; yeſterday morning the European battalion forced the drummers to beat the General, without appriſing any of their officers, and ſtood to their arms, appointing themſelves a leader: after loading their pieces and fixing their bayonets, they took poſſeſſion of the artillery parks, forcing the laſcars and ſome gunners to draw out ſix guns, placing three on each flank; the European horſe formed on the right, and the Moguls on the left; the ſeapoys were likewiſe in motion, but by a timely admonition they deſiſted. All endeavours were uſed to pacify the Europeans, but in vain; in this order they proceeded through the Nabob's camp, croſſed a nulla, and directed their march towards the Carumnaſſa. When I found they were not to be ſtopped at any rate, I ſent Captain Stables to apprize the Nabob, who came and met them on their march—offered a lack of rupees, one half to be paid immediately, and the remainder at one o'clock in the afternoon, which was all he could produce in camp; but neither promiſes or threats could ſtop them—for want of draught bullocks, the cannon were loſt on the road to, and in, the Nabob's camp, which I returned to camp again.

I followed them in company with many of the battalion officers, endeavouring to perſuade them to march back to camp, and receive the money the Nabob had ſent. About a hundred dropt them on the march, and returned: on their arrival at the Carumnaſſa, they drew up on the parade in the front of the guns belonging to the detachments, and immediately ſecured them; in the mean time, the Mogul horſe diſperſed themſelves amongſt the ſeapoys of the detachment, to influence them to join. Here I got them to halt to take a dram and biſcuit; while the drams were ſerved, we prevailed on moſt of the Engliſh to return; but the French, and moſt of the foreigners, perſiſted in croſſing the Carumnaſſa, to the amount of about three hundred, and proceeded towards Banaras; at the ſame time, by the influence of the

the Mogul horſe, part of two battalions of ſeapoys of the Carumnaſſa detachment ruſhed to their arms, fixed their bayonets, and followed them acroſs the river: growing towards the evening, I took the remainder of the Europeans with the guns to the grand camp, leaving ſome officers to aſſiſt the ſeapoy officers. To-day we have got many of the ſeapoys to return, with ſome of the Europeans; and I expect moſt of the ſeapoys, with about ſeventy Europeans, will return this evening, on condition of being pardoned; there is a body of Frenchmen, about one hundred and fifty, headed by Serjeant Delamar, and two of the French ſerjeants that have halted on the banks of the Ganges, oppoſite Banaras, but cannot croſs for want of boats. I have very little hopes of this party's returning, for it ſeems to have been a premeditated ſcheme of the French in particular, to entice the beſt part of the army over to the enemy, under the pretence of donation money, at the ſame were determined to refuſe all offers of caſh whatever.

This morning I ordered part of the donation to be paid from the laak which the Nabob ſent, the Europeans received forty rupees per man, and the ſeapoys ſix rupees each; the non-commiſſioned officers in proportion; this appears to have ſatisfied them, and I believe moſt of the Europeans that have returned are aſhamed of their proceedings, being convinced of the bad intention of their leaders (the French) to draw them into a crime which they never intended.

I ſhall, with the aſſiſtance of my officers, do my utmoſt endeavour to regain thoſe ſtill miſſing, and am in great hopes, by their preſent behaviour, that the fury of the ſtorm is paſt. However I think it proper that the army be kept in motion, which may partly prevent the like for the future. I purpoſe ſhifting ground often, ſtill keeping the diſtrict between the Sone and Carumnaſſa, and ſhould be glad to be honoured with your orders and advice.

The Nabob propoſed ſetting out for Calcutta two days ago, but receiving a letter from Shittabroy, that he ſhould ſet out from Illiabad immediately with the ſonnads, has detained him a few days longer.

I am,
Honourable Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble Servant,
WILLIAM JENNINGS.

Camp at Sut, near Carumnaſſa,
February 12, 1764.

27th February, 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
William Billers, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Hugh Watts, Eſq.
Samuel Middleton, Eſq.
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſq.
John Burdett, Eſq.

Captain Jennings's Letter.

Received a letter from Captain Jennings, dated the 15th Inſtant, giving us a particular account of the behaviour of the troops, from the date of his laſt letter to the board, till the mutiny which happened among them on the 12th; of which we have already been particularly adviſed by his letter to the Preſident of that date, as likewiſe of the ſteps he took to pacify, and bring them to a proper ſenſe of their duty: that the next day the ſeapoys at camp having heard of the revolt of thoſe at the Carumnaſſa, refuſed to take the ſix rupees per man offered them, and immediately ſtood to their arms; whereupon the greateſt confuſion enſued, as the Europeans, being aſhamed of their former behaviour, inſiſted on forcing the ſeapoys back; and accordingly ſtood likewiſe to their arms, and the artillery to their guns: that not being able to prevent this, he ordered the battalion to form on the parade, load, and fix their bayonets; but upon no pretence to uſe violence, without they were attacked: that finding nothing elſe would quiet them, he has judged it for the good of the ſervice, that the ſeapoys demand for being paid half the ſhare per man, which the Europeans had received, ſhould be complied with, and that the havildars have accordingly received each 40 rupees, the naiks 30, and the ſeapoys 20: that they appear all pretty well ſatisfied at preſent, and that he ſhall uſe his utmoſt endeavours, with the aſſiſtance of the other officers, to promote quiet and harmony among them.

1ſt March 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Preſident,
William Billers, Eſq.
Warren Haſtings, Eſq.
Randolph Marriott, Eſq.
Hugh Watts, Eſq.
Samuel Middleton, Eſq.
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſq.
Mr. Burdett, abſent.

Captain

APPENDIX, No. 67.

Captain Jennings's Letter.

Received a letter from Captain Jennings, dated the 18th inſtant; acquainting us, that the troops are again brought to good order, and at preſent appear extremely well ſatisfied; that he learns by his hircarras, the foreigners, headed by Serjeant Delamar, have proceeded on towards Elliabad, and that Raja Bulwant Sing has aſſiſted them with money and guides to conduct them to Shuja Dowla's camp; although in his letter, in anſwer to Captain Jennings's, he aſſures him, that he uſed all the perſuaſions in his power to prevail with them to return, but that they perſiſted in marching forwards, to offer their ſervice to Shuja Dowla: that by the return of that day, he finds our loſs to conſiſt of five ſerjeants and 152 rank and file, with 16 private of the European cavalry, and 100 ſeapoys; but that the latter being in a ſeparate body, he is ſtill in hopes of prevailing with them to return to their colours.

12 March 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
William Billers, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire.
Mr. Burdett indiſpoſed.

To the Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſq. Preſident and Governor, &c. of Fort William.

Honourable Sir,

I received your favour of the 5th of February, and ſhould have anſwered it ſooner, but our advices for ſome time have been very intricate, both from Illiabad and Shuja Dowlah's army.

The Nabob's intelligence, which corroborates with ours, are, that Shittabroy is ſtopped from coming; and that the King and Shuja Dowla are come to a reſolution to aſſiſt Coſſim Aly Cawn, and put him again in poſſeſſion of Bengal, &c. By two Hircarrahs from Banaras the 24 ultimo, I am informed that Coſſim Aly, by order of Shuja Dowla, has ſent Shake Small Beg Jemmadar, with two hundred horſe, and four companies of of ſeapoys, to Bulwant Sing; who is to aſſiſt them with hackirys, and a proper buzar, for their march to Rotaſgur, to carry off the treaſures and effects left there. Upon enquiry, I find there is no way of preventing this party, but by croſſing the Carumnaſſa, their route being round the hills, through Bulwant Sing's country, which brings them to the weſtern gate of Rataſgur, without entering the Nabob's dominions.

Major Carnac being expected every day at Patna, I have wrote to receive his orders.—I have ſome reaſon to think that Shuja Dowla has ſent people to our camp to corrupt our men.—I have confined a fukeer, who is accuſed by an European of offering his ſervice to the revolted party on their way to the Carumnaſſa, promiſing to conduct and ſupply them with proviſion on their march up the country: and by a letter from Captain Stables, received laſt night from the Nabob's camp at Doudnagur, he ſays, 'tis now confirmed, that Shuja Dowla enticed our people to deſert.

The army's only complaint is the dearneſs and great ſcarcity of proviſions in our buzar.—The Budgpoor country has been entirely ruined by Coſſim Aly Cawn's army, and it is with great difficulty we can get ſupplies at any rate; moſt part comes from Patna. I have wrote to Mr. Batſon, who has promiſed to aſſiſt us all that is in his power: I likewiſe diſpatch large parties twice a week to Patna for grain; but notwithſtanding which, I am greatly afraid we ſhall be but ill provided; at preſent the black troops and ſervants can barely live on their pay. If it ſhould be judged neceſſary for the army to remain in the Budgpoor country, I would recommend that magazines for ſupplying the troops be erected at Buxar, with a proper detachment to remain there as a guard to the magazine. Buxar lies very convenient to be ſupplied with grain from Patna, and the adjacent countries, by water, which will greatly leſſen the price of all kinds of proviſions, and likewiſe be nearer for ſupplying any part of the Budgpoor country. Our preſent land carriage from Patna raiſes the price of rice, &c. in our buzar a hundred per cent. more than the Patna market, beſides the uncertainty occaſioned by the merchants ſelling at different places on the road.—I expect Major Carnac will meet the Nabob at Patna.

I am,
Honourable Sir,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble Servant,
WILLIAM JENNINGS.

Camp at Sarſaram,
February the 28th 1764.

Major

Major Carnac's Letters.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated at Patna the 1ſt and 2d inſtant; the former confirming, by his advices, Captain Jennings's intelligence, with regard to Shuja Dowla and Coſſim Aly Cawn; and again expreſſing his hopes, that the Bombay detachment have been detained here; the latter repreſenting the great inconvenience to which the army is expoſed on account of the extraordinary ſcarcity and dearneſs of all ſorts of grain, and the diſcontent which it occaſions among the troops, and requeſting we will ſend orders to Burdwan and Coſſimbuzar, for forwarding them ſupplies as ſpeedily as poſſible; likewiſe recommending the removal of Captain Grant's battalion of ſeapoys up to the army, as they have been uninfected, and having a battalion ſent from camp to Chittagong in their room.

Agreed, we reply to theſe letters of Major Carnac's; acquainting him, that immediately on receipt of his laſt letter, the Preſident wrote to the Nabob, deſiring he would ſend orders to his officers in Purnea, Dinagepoor, and Radſhy and the other diſtricts, where grain is moſt plentifully produced, to collect all they could, and ſend large quantities to Patna; and recommending to him, as we look upon this the beſt and moſt likely expedient for procuring ſupplies, to repeat the neceſſity of enforcing theſe orders: that the ſtores for Captain Pimble's detachment are now ſending up to Ghyrottee, and that it will be ordered to march from thence as ſoon as they are completed: that the Bombay ſeapoys form a part of this detachment, but as there is no more than one battalion for the protection and ſervice of all the Chittagong and Dacca diſtricts, it is impoſſible that any part of them can be ſpared to go to the army: that we obſerve from his letters, as well as thoſe from Captain Jennings, the reaſon which there is to expect, that Shuja Dowla will either come himſelf, or favour an invaſion into Bahar: that if theſe advices ſhould prove to have foundation, we think it will be more adviſable to carry the war into Shuja Dowla's country, than to wait for his entering the province: that we deſire therefore he will, immediately on ſuch confirmation being received, if he thinks he can depend on the diſpoſition and affection of the troops, march the army acroſs the Caruminaſſa, and proceed to act offenſively againſt the enemy, to the beſt advantage: that in the mean time we ſhall hold further reinforcements in readineſs, conſiſting of the detachment of the 84th regiment, the marines of the ſquadron, and a party of the artillery, which will in all make about 200 men, with two pieces of cannon, to march and join him whenever it ſhall be judged neceſſary.

19th March 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Preſident,
William Billers, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.

Major Carnac's Letters.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated the 7th and 8th inſtant; the former adviſing us of his arrival at the camp, and that all accounts agree, that Meer Coſſim has engaged Shuja Dowla to march this way—That the mutinous ſpirit of the troops is far from being ſuppreſſed; for that the officers aſſure him, they have intimations there will be a further demand made of the donation money, both by Europeans and ſeapoys—that a havildar of Captain Galliez's battalion expreſſed himſelf ſo inſolently on this matter, he has thought proper to confine him, and ſend him down to Calcutta in irons; and that he has alſo ordered down five Europeans, who have been ſome time under confinement for deſertion and other crimes, and recommends their being ſent on board the King's ſhips. The letter of the 8th incloſes duplicate of that of the 7th, and confirms the intelligence of Shuja Dowla's moving this way.

26th March 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
William Billers, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire,
Mr. Haſtings indiſpoſed.

Major Carnac's Letter.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 15th Inſtant; incloſing a paper of intelligence from the King's camp, and adviſing us, that finding Shuja Dowla was on the move towards him, he has thought it incumbent upon him to advance the army towards the frontiers, to oppoſe the enemy's entrance into the province; that he has judged it neceſſary to make

another dividend to the troops, to the amount of twenty rupees to each private European, and half that ſum to each ſeapoy—that the ſeapoys have now received each 30 rupees, which he looks upon to be as much as they are intitled to, and that this was intimated to them, at this laſt payment—that one of the companies made a little ſtir on the occaſion, but that it ended with his puniſhing two or three ſeapoys, who were principally concerned, and turning them out of the ſervice; that the officers, from a conviction the men will never be in right temper, ſo long as any part of the donation remains due to them, have agreed, not to receive their proportions, till the ſoldiers have had their intire ſhares; that after the deſertion of ſo many Frenchmen, he could entertain no favourable opinion of the few who ſtaid behind, and could not avoid being ſuſpicious they did ſo with ſome ill view, and that he has therefore ordered Captain Martin, with the remainder of his company, down to Calcutta.

29th March 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
Commodore Tinker,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.
Meſſrs. Middleton and Leyceſter indiſpoſed.

Major Carnac's Letter.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 18th inſtant; incloſing one he has received from Shitabroy; to which he refers us, for information of Shuja Dowla's intention againſt us; and expreſſing his concern to find, that by the advices from Calcutta, of the 8th, the reinforcement under the command of Captain Pemble had not yet begun their march; that their being ſo late, renders it next to impoſſible for them to join him in time, and that he muſt therefore put every thing to riſk, with the force he has at preſent, however little to be depended on, after what has paſſed; further adviſing us, that he would fain croſs the Carumnaſſa, and give the enemy a meeting, as far as poſſible from the boundary, but that he fears the diſtreſs they are in for proviſions, being only ſupplied from day to day, will not permit his doing ſo; and that he ſhall be obliged to keep cloſe by the Ganges, to ſecure a conveyance by water, having had intimation, that the enemy's deſign is to hover at a diſtance around them, and endeavour to cut off their ſupplies.——That a treaty of alliance has been ſome time in agitation, between the Nabob and Bulwantſing, the Rajah of Banaras: that the Nabob is now very anxious for its being brought to a concluſion; and propoſed to him, that evening, ſetting his ſeal thereto, on the part of the Engliſh, without which the Rajah will not enter into any engagement: that he ſhall be very unwilling to take a ſtep of ſuch a nature, without firſt knowing whether it be agreeable to us; but that the preſent exigency will not admit the delay of waiting our anſwer.

Having duly conſidered this letter of Major Carnac, we are unanimouſly of opinion, that as Shuja Dowla has now openly eſpouſed the cauſe of Coſſim Aly Cawn, and encourages his deſign of an invaſion into Bengal, we can entertain no further thoughts of entering into a treaty with him: on the contrary we think it our duty to form againſt him all the enemies we poſſibly can; that the propoſed alliance with Bulwantſing will therefore be a very proper meaſure, and prove, as well now as in all time to come, a ſtrong barrier and defence to the Bengal provinces.

Agreed therefore, that we write to Major Carnac, adviſing him, that we ſhall approve entirely of his entering into the intended treaty, in concert with the Nabob; and of his engaging to protect and maintain Bulwantſing independant, both now and hereafter.—That the detachment which in our letter of the 12th we mentioned we ſhould hold in readineſs, will march this day from Ghyrottee, under the command of Captain Weymyſs; ſo that we have now reinforced him with every man that is capable of bearing arms: that, for the defence of this part of the country, particularly the province of Burdwan, againſt any detached parties which may be ſent to make inroads by the way of the hills, we are completing the battalions at Burdwan and Midnapoor, and ſhall call Captain Grant from Chittagong, with all the ſeapoys in thoſe parts, excepting one battalion of the new eſtabliſhment; and that this force, with what aſſiſtance Commodore Tinker may yield us, for the ſervice of the artillery, is all we have to depend on: that we muſt ſtill ſuppoſe the Nabob has iſſued orders to his officers, for ſending to Patna all the grain that can be collected in the different countries; but that, for his ſatisfaction and our own, we ſhall write to Mr. Gray to be certainly informed, and direct him alſo to adviſe him; and if the officers have not received orders to that effect, to purchaſe all he can on account of the Company, and forward it on to Patna: that we incloſe him a letter from the Preſident to Shuja Dowla, with an Engliſh tranſlation for his peruſal, which if he think it adviſeable, at the time he arrives, he will pleaſe to forward on.

Agreed, that the letter to Shuja Dowla be to the following purport:

That it is reported, he has received Coſſim Aly Cawn into his friendſhip, and that he is marching this way, in order to ſupport his cauſe: that conſidering the former connections ſubſiſting between him and the chiefs of the company, we cannot give credit to this report: that

we

we are perſuaded he has the utmoſt regard for juſtice, and that he will not act in ſo unequitable a manner: that if however ſuch are his real intentions, we ſhall not neglect to do what is neceſſary on our part; and that it is our reſolution to keep this country free from troubles, and to carry the war into his dominions, and deſolate and lay waſte his country.

3d April, 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſq. Preſident,
Warren Haſtings, Eſq.
Randolph Marriott, Eſq.
Samuel Middleton, Eſq.
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſq.
Mr. Burdett, indiſpoſed.

Major Carnac's Letter.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 22d inſtant; acquainting us, That the enemy are all collecting at and near Benaras; and making preparations for throwing bridges acroſs the Ganges: that he would willingly puſh over the Carumnaſſa, with an intention of obſtructing their work; but that the Nabob is utterly averſe to entering Shuja Dowla's country, being unwilling to do any thing that may be conſtrued as a commencement of hoſtilities on his part; further repeating his complaints on account of the great ſcarcity of proviſions, and acquainting us, that not chuſing to rely on his ſole judgment in ſo critical a caſe, he conſulted Major Champion and the captains of the army, with regard to croſſing into the enemy's country, and the ſtation in which they are at preſent encamped; and that they are entirely againſt moving till a ſupply of grain is ſecured, and agree with him, that at Buxar they are moſt advantageouſly poſted for watching the motions of the enemy: that he has ordered a bridge to be laid over the mouth of the Carumnaſſa, for paſſing the troops, as ſoon as he has collected a ſtock of grain, when he propoſes advancing up the Ganges to oppoſe the enemy's croſſing it, or ſhould they be croſſed to offer them battle.

Agreed, We reply to Major Carnac's letter; acquainting him that he has already been adviſed of the reinforcements ordered to camp under the command of Captains Pemble and Weymyſs, ſo that he will ſend ſuch orders to thoſe officers as he may judge requiſite, in conſequence of the operations of the enemy and the diſpoſition they may make in advancing into the country, particularly in caſe any detachments of their force ſhould paſs between him and Bengal:—that we are endeavouring to raiſe a party of the volunteers who were under Captain Wedderburn, to be employed again in the ſame manner in armed boats on the river, on any neceſſary ſervice: that we deſire therefore he will direct the boats, which we are informed are at camp, to be repaired, and kept in readineſs for embarking them; or if he thinks proper he may ſend them down to meet the party at their march up: that expecting the Nabob's arrival in Calcutta, we have delayed enquiring into the ſtate of his revenues and expences, and the other branches of his government, which are neceſſary for ſettling the articles of the treaty; but that as that proſpect is now very uncertain, we muſt requeſt he will make the beſt enquiries he can, and inform us of the ſtate of the Nabob's finances, and how they are managed, as his complaint of want of money appears to us extraordinary, conſidering he has had the time for making the heavy collections of the year, and but ſmall diſburſements that we know of; that it is neceſſary we ſhould be alſo acquainted with the ſtate and expence of the Nabob's army; what number of troops he keeps up, and what principal officers he employs and depends upon:—that we ſhould be glad to know further who are the principal officers about his court, and in his councils:—that we know Nundcomar to be one, and to have the chief management of his correſpondence:—and as we have had too frequent experience of this man's intriguing diſpoſition, and are certain that he has many connections in Shuja Dowla's court, we have reaſon to ſuſpect that he will employ theſe connections, at ſo critical a juncture as this, againſt our government, as a ſecurity for himſelf in all circumſtances: that we cannot be too much on our guard againſt any ſuch deſigns, and we ſhould wiſh therefore to have him entirely removed from the Nabob's ſervice:—that if he thinks he can bring the Nabob to conſent to his diſmiſſion, we would have it done immediately; but that if he thinks the Nabob will not conſent to it, we would have him keep thoſe ſentiments entirely to himſelf, leſt it ſhould cauſe a jealouſy in the Nabob, or excite Nundcomar to form worſe deſigns, from the apprehenſion of ſuch an event, and content himſelf with taking all poſſible precautions to prevent his carrying on any correſpondence with the enemy:—that it is evident there has been a ſhameful neglect with reſpect to collecting grain for the army, ſince Meer Coſſim was driven out of the country before the harveſt was reaped; and there never was known a more plentiful crop: that this we cannot help regarding as a particular inſtance of the miſmanagement or wilful neglect of Nundcomar, knowing it to be his duty, from his poſt, to have attended to that buſineſs: that we formerly applied to the Nabob for tuncaws on account of the Company; three laaks to be paid at Patna, five at Coſſimbuzar, five at Calcutta, and five at Dacca; to which application he replied, He would grant them when he came to Calcutta; but that the time of his coming being now very uncertain, the Preſident has wrote to him

him again for the ſame tuncaws; and that we deſire he will repreſent the neceſſity of his granting them, as the Company's affairs ſuffer much for want of money, and we are afraid of being diſtreſſed to anſwer even our military expences, and our daily demands:—that there is another object of general concern, upon which alſo we muſt deſire he will apply to the Nabob, if he thinks circumſtances will admit of it; we mean the fund for reſtitution of the merchants loſſes in the late troubles, for which no proviſion has been yet made, and which, we perceive by the accounts already delivered in, will amount to a very conſiderable ſum, notwithſtanding the regulations we have laid down for reducing the prices of every kind of goods to the loweſt:—that we are obliged to requeſt his aſſiſtance in theſe points, untill Mr. Watts ſhall arrive at his ſtation with the Nabob, when he will take the burden of them off his hands, and inform him of all his proceedings.

Conſultation, 9th April, 1764.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated 26th March 1764; incloſing one which he had received from Captain Maclean, adviſing him of a very daring attempt made by one of the ſubdars of his battalion, to decoy his company over to the enemy; and acquainting us that the man having been tried by a court martial, compoſed of black officers of the battalions, and found guilty of the charge alledged againſt him; and the court having given it unanimouſly as their opinion, that he deſerved to be blown from the mouth of a cannon for the ſame, he had him accordingly executed in that manner the ſame afternoon at the head of the army; and expreſſing his hopes that this public execution will ſtrike a terror amongſt the troops, and awe them into better behaviour for the future.—The letter further adviſes us, that there is now no doubt of a bridge being finiſhed over the Ganges; but they have ſuch various accounts of the different quarters by which the enemy intend penetrating the province, that though they were provided for advancing on, yet he thinks it moſt adviſeable to wait at Buxar, and watch what way they turn their principal force, that they may move thither to oppoſe them. Alſo incloſing a paper of news, which after finiſhing his letter he had received from the Nabob.

Captain M'Lean's letter, and the paper of news being read;

Ordered, They be entered after the Major's letter.

The latter, on peruſal, is only found to contain advice, that the enemy are encamped at Bulwar Ghant, on the banks of the Ganges, with the particulars of their force, and that bridges for their paſſage are building with all expedition.

16th April 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
Commodore Tinker, Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated the 2d and 4th April 1764. The former incloſing the proceedings of a general court martial held on Captain Lieutenant Baylone, which has occaſioned his diſmiſſion from the ſervice, and repeating ſtill his complaints of the want of proviſions; further mentioning, that he thinks Captain Pemble has been rather dilatory in his march, having received a letter from him of the 23d ultimo, when he was only at Plaſſey, altho' he left Ghyrottee the 17th. The ſecond adviſing us, that from informations which he has received from Mur Aſhruff, he has been led to entertain ſtrong ſuſpicions of Nundcomar's fidelity and attachment, and that he apprehends he has ever been engaged in a private correſpondence with the enemy: that whatever may be the truth, the tenor of Nundcomar's conduct argues ſtrongly againſt him; to ſupport which the Major mentions the little aſſiſtance we have as yet received from his adminiſtration, and particularly inſtances the diſtreſs of the army for want of proviſions: that the countries from which we ſhould receive our ſupplies, have been by him put into the hands of Myr Coſſim's creatures; to which we may add, that whatever may be his diſpoſition with regard to the Nabob, we cannot reaſonably expect he ſhould have any attachment towards us, conſidering the circumſtances of his having been long under confinement with us on an accuſation of a former criminal correſpondence, and his being fully convinced that it is the intention of our government, if in their power, to get the chief management of the provinces conſigned over to Roy Dulub: that the very ſuſpicion (and for which there were ſuch grounds) of a man in ſo high a degree of confidence with the Nabob, and who, if a traitor, would have it in his power to do us ſo much miſchief, was reaſon ſufficient for his wiſhing to have him removed, and that he had accordingly exerted all his influence with the Nabob for that purpoſe; but that he always inſiſted, in reply to his arguments, that he knew Nundcomar to be his friend, and that Roy Dulub was a traitor to him; and could be brought to no other conceſſion, but that if the one was ſent away, the other ſhould be diſmiſſed alſo; to which the Major fears he will be obliged to ſubmit, unleſs ſome more eligible expedient can be hit upon, as he thinks Nundcomar's remaining with the Nabob after ſo public an accuſation would alone render him our enemy, tho' he were not ſo before.

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The Major further adds, That the continued want of grain has obliged him to retire towards the Soane, where he can more ſecurely depend upon ſupplies, and becauſe all his late intelligence agrees that the enemy do not intend fighting us; but that their delay at the bridges near Benaras is to draw our attention that way, to give time for the diviſion they are ſending round by the back of the country to get between our army and Patna.

And agreed, in conſequence of the advice contained in the latter, that the Nabob be addreſſed by the Preſident, in the name of the whole board, to the following effect:

That it is with great concern we find ourſelves under the neceſſity of remonſtrating to him upon the ill adminiſtration of the affairs of theſe provinces ſince his acceſſion to the government, ſtrongly exemplified by the great diſtreſs our army has been in for want of grain, tho' the country was freed from any enemy before the crop was cut, and that they were as plentiful as were ever known; in the repeated complaints he has made to us of his want of money, tho' the heavieſt collections of the year muſt have fallen into his hands, and in general from the little he now ſeems able to give us for the diſtreſs of our common enemies, that we cannot impute theſe evils to any but Nundcomar, under whoſe immediate influence and direction all the affairs of his government have hitherto been conducted; that theſe are ſtrong inſtances of his miſconduct and negligence; but that what gives us ſtill greater reaſon to be diſſatisfied with him is, that from advices lately received from Major Carnac, we have too much reaſon to ſuſpect he has been carrying on a ſecret correſpondence with the enemy, and counteracting every meaſure we have been taking for the ſupport of his (the Nabob's) government; that, notwithſtanding the repeated repreſentations which have been made to him (the Nabob) for ſupplies of grain, Major Carnac for want of it has been obliged to return to the Soane: that this, with other matters, which have been fully repreſented to him by Major Carnac, will effectually, we hope, convince him that the diſapprobation we now expreſs at Nundcomar's conduct ariſes only from our friendſhip for him, and a regard for our common ſafety; that therefore, however backward and cautious we ſhould at all times be not to interfere with the officers of his government, yet the wicked miſmanagement of Nundcomar in the preſent critical ſituation of our affairs, obliges us to preſs and inſiſt upon the immediate removal of that man from his employ; that we take not upon us to recommend a ſucceſſor, reſolving to approve of any man whom he ſhall pleaſe to appoint, if he will but manifeſt a true zeal for his ſervice; whatever opinion we may have expreſſed of Roy Dulub, or deſire to have him employed, we are ready to acquieſce in his removal to Calcutta, if ſuch is his (the Nabob's) pleaſure, at the ſame time that he ſends down Nundcomar, being deſirous to give him every proof in our power, that we are not ſwayed to make this remonſtrance from any partiality to the one, or perſonal diſlike to the other; that we are not incautiouſly or unneceſſarily interfering with his authority, which we are determined to ſupport—but are compelled, much againſt our will, to preſs the removal of this man, who ſeems to be undermining both his power and ours; that as we are giving now the ſtrongeſt inſtances of our attachment to him, by exerting all our ſtrength to free his country from our common enemies, we muſt expect that he will ſo far concur with our endeavours, as immediately to remove Nundcomar from his confidence and ſervice; as the longer any power continues in his hands, the more endangered is our common ſafety, by his artifice and miſconduct: that we are happy in preſenting this addreſs thro' the hands of Major Carnac, of whoſe attachment and regard we have repeatedly had ſuch ſtrong proofs, and with whom we have no doubt will be ready to concur in every neceſſary meaſure for the public good.

Agreed alſo, that we do write to Fort St. George, and to Dacca, Caſſimbuzar, and Mantea, adviſing them of the appearance there is of the country's being invaded by a very numerous enemy; and that altho' we have no manner of doubt that our forces under the command of Major Carnac will defeat them, wherever they may be brought to engage, yet we think from their numbers there is a probability of their diſperſing, and making ſudden incurſions in different parts of the country; and therefore judge it neceſſary to acquaint them, that it is not on any account our intention they ſhould riſk falling into the hands of the enemy, by attempting to make a ſtand at their factories, which are not calculated for defence, or provided with troops for that purpoſe; but that on the approach of any formidable body of troops, we would have them to retreat in time, with what effects they can with ſafety bring along with them.

Conſultation 26th April 1764.

Received two letters from Major Carnac, dated the 9th and 17th; the former repeating and explaining fully the reaſons which determined him to croſs the Soane, and retire towards Patna; and adviſing us that he is now convinced, from Bulwant Sing's behaviour (of which the Major gives us an account) that his propoſed alliance with us was only a concerted ſcheme to draw us further on, and to favour Shuja Dowla's deſign of getting between our army and Patna—That in conſequence of our former orders he diſcharged a number of boats immediately upon his arrival at Patna, inſomuch that he has at preſent ſcarce a ſufficiency for the ſervice; and that the paymaſter aſſures him the accounts of the army have been tranſmitted to the end of laſt year, and promiſes to continue ſending them down as regularly as poſſible.—The laſt letter acknowledges receipt of ours of the 3d; and acquaints us, That it is ſomething remarkable that that

was preciſely the day on which he had the debate with the Nabob relative to Nundcomar; that our coincidence of ſentiment with him in this particular amounts to a demonſtration that there are ſtrong grounds of ſuſpicion, however we may want direct proof againſt him; that yet that the Nabob is ſo obſtinately attached to this man that he fears there will be no poſſibility of removing him without having recourſe to force, which, at this critical juncture, it would he thinks be improper to make uſe of; that his Excellency is ſo much out of temper by this affair, that it has occaſioned his being ſo out of order as not to be willing or able to enter upon buſineſs. for ſome days paſt; that he has deferred giving any anſwer to his demand on the article of reſtitution, but had ſent orders the day before to the proper officers for the payment, three laak at Moorſhedabad, the ſaid ſum at Dacca, a laak and half at Nudya, the ſame at Honaghty, and one laak at Patna, of which he himſelf adviſes the Preſident: that Beny Bahadre is certainly come on this ſide the Carumnaſſa, by the high road, ſo that there is no longer any doubt of Shuja Dowla's intending to favour Meer Coſſim; which is further confirmed by a letter incloſed, which he (the Major) had that day received from the Vizier; to which he adviſes he had replied in the following terms; That he was not to be preſcribed by any but of the King of England, and the Engliſh Company, whoſe ſervant he was; that he (Shuja Dowla) had gone ſuch lengths, that we could no longer look upon him but as an enemy, and that the ſword muſt now decide between them; that he could not doubt of ſucceſs, as he was confident, from the juſtice of our own cauſe, we could not fail having Providence on our ſide.—He alſo incloſes one to us, which he ſuppoſes is to the ſame purpoſe, and adviſes us further that the Bombay detachment had joined him the day before, and that he had ſent on two battalions of ſeapoys, with a couple of guns, and propoſes advancing with the army as far as he can be ſure of being ſupplied with grain.

The Preſident alſo lays before the board the following Tranſlates of Shuja Dowla's Letters, received from the Major.

From Shuja ul Dowla to the Governer and Council.

Former Kings of Indoſtan, by exempting the Engliſh Company from duties, granting them different ſettlements and factories, and aſſiſting them in all their affairs, beſtowed greater kindneſs and honour upon them than either upon the country merchants, or any other Europeans; moreover of late His Majeſty has graciouſly conferred on you higher titles and dignities than was proper, and jagheers, and other favours ſince; notwithſtanding theſe various favours which have been ſhewn you, you have interfered in the King's country, poſſeſſed yourſelves of diſtricts belonging to the government, ſuch as Burdwan and Chittagong, &c. and turned out and eſtabliſhed Nabobs at pleaſure, without the conſent of the imperial court. Since you have impriſoned dependents upon the court, and expoſed the government of the King of Kings to contempt and diſhonour; ſince you have ruined the trade of the merchants of the country, granted protection to the King's ſervants, injured the revenues of the imperial court, and cruſhed the inhabitants by your acts of violence; and ſince you are continually ſending freſh people from Calcutta, and invading different parts of the royal dominions, and have even plundered ſeveral villages and pergunnas belonging to the province of Illahabad; to what can all theſe wrong proceedings be attributed, but to an abſolute diſregard for the court, and a wicked deſign of ſeizing the country for yourſelves? If you have behaved in this manner, in conſequence of your King's commands, or the Company's directions, be pleaſed to acquaint me of the particulars thereof, that I may ſhew how ſuitable a reſentment: but if theſe diſturbances have ariſen from your own improper deſires, deſiſt from ſuch behaviour in future; interfere not in the affairs of the government; withdraw your people from every part, and ſend them to their own country; carry on the Company's trade as formerly, and confine yourſelves to commercial affairs. In this caſe imperial court will more than ever aſſiſt you in your buſineſs, and confer its favours upon. Send hither ſome perſon of diſtinction as your vacqueel to inform me properly of all circumſtances, that I may act accordingly. If (which God forbid!) you are haughty and diſobedient, the heads of the diſturbers ſhall be devoured by the ſword of juſtice, and you will feel the weight of His Majeſty's diſpleaſure, which is the type of the wrath of God; nor will any ſubmiſſions or acknowledgments of your neglect hereafter avail you, as your Company have of old been ſupported by the royal favours. I have therefore wrote to to you; you will act as you may think adviſeable; ſpeedily ſend me your anſwer.

From Shuja ul Dowla to Major Carnac.

Agreeable to His Majeſty's care for the welfare of the people, I now write to you. Conſider how the Kings of Indoſtan have given your Company ſettlements and factories, exempted them from duties, and conferred greater favours upon them than upon other Europeans or the merchants of their own dominions: ſince then, notwithſtanding all theſe favours, you have been guilty of ingratitude to the court; ſince you have turned aſide from your former paths, and on the contrary have been continually marching your troops into the King's country; and ſince you have preſumed to remove the officers of the imperial court, and to turn out and eſtabliſh Nabobs,

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What kind of behaviour is this? In caſe you have your King's or your Company's orders for theſe proceedings, be pleaſed to inform me of it, that I may ſhew a ſuitable reſentment. But if it is through your own inclinations that you have plundered villages belonging to Illiabad, and that you entertain your evil deſigns, notwithſtanding the approach of the royal ſtandards, it is proper you ſhould deſiſt from ſuch proceedings, and repreſent your deſires to me. In caſe of your obedience, our favours ſhall be conferred upon you; otherwiſe the guilty and diſobedient ſhall be utterly deſtroyed.

Conſultation, 10 May 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
Warren Haſtings, Eſq.
Randolph Marriott, Eſq.
Samuel Middleton, Eſq.
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſq.
John Burdett, Eſq.

On the 8th in the Evening we received the following Letter from Major Carnac.

Gentlemen,

I have received your favour of the 16th, with the Perſian letter from the Preſident, and the ſame in Engliſh, ſigned by the whole board, to be preſented by me to the Nabob, in order to inforce my application for the diſmiſſion of Nundcomar. I have before acquainted you of the Nabob's attachment to this man, and with my being obliged, to avoid coming to extremities, to appear reconciled to him; and for the ſame reaſon you will pleaſe my not delivering the Preſident's letter at this juncture, as I firmly believe the Nabob is ſo infatuated, that he would rather give up every thing than part with Nundcomar. His Excellency's conduct ſubjects me to the greateſt inconveniencies, and particularly to that of acting defenſively. One would almoſt think he is engaged in a combination againſt himſelf; and had I drawn near to Patna to cover it as well as him, it is moſt likely he would have been carried off, and the city taken, there being many of the enemy's adherents both within his camp and the town; and it is more than probable, the parties which have gone behind us were for that purpoſe.

The preſervation of the Sircarſerang country is of the utmoſt importance to us for proviſions; yet, in ſpite of all my remonſtrances, it has been continued in the hands of one Ramchund, a known creature of Myr Coſſim, whoſe troops to-day are all gone over to the enemy, ſo that we hourly expected news of their having entered that pergunnah. As ſoon as Captain Wemyſs arrives I ſhall order a detachment over for the ſecurity of that country. I propoſe keeping the marines, and taking this opportunity of ſeparating our people, amongſt many of whom the ſeeds of diſcontent ſtill remain, which it has required my utmoſt care to prevent from breaking forth. There is certainly ſomebody tampering with them; and a number of letters have been lately found dropped in the camp, addreſſed to our foreigners, with intent to debauch them, one whereof I herewith ſend you.

The accompanying is Shuja Dowla's anſwer to the laſt letter from the Preſident, which I took the liberty to open. The main army of the enemy muſt be pretty near us, though we can get no certain intelligence of them, their advanced parties of horſe plundering and deſtroying every thing in ſuch a manner that our hircarrahs are afraid to approach them. I cannot conceive how they, being ſo numerous, will manage to ſubſiſt; and I think they muſt be ſo diſtreſſed as to attempt ſomething deciſive, and that very ſpeedily.

I have completed the reform of our ſeapoys, and we have now ten battalions upon the new eſtabliſhment pretty near complete in number, but greatly deficient in arms; ſome of them are extremely good; I cannot as yet ſay ſo much of the four youngeſt. One is ſtationed at Mongheer, and there are two, beſides the Bombay ſeapoys, in gariſon at Patna. I have alſo formed Captain Hay's troop, agreeable to your directions; and the ſupernumerary horſes, except ſome ſpare ones that was neceſſary to keep, have been ſold on the Company's account.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble Servant,
JOHN CARNAC.

Camp near Patna,
the 30th April 1764.

Sir,

We muſt confeſs ourſelves uneaſy at the neceſſity which you have been under of acting upon the defenſive, and wiſh it may ſoon be in your power to change this plan, as it is beyond doubt that all our ſucceſſes againſt the powers of this empire have been owing to acting offenſively, and always puſhing to the attack; and this meaſure appears the more neceſſary at this time, as the ill diſpoſition of our troops is likely to be encreaſed by nothing ſo much as inaction: we are ſenſible of the difficulties you have had to encounter; perplexed with the Nabob's bad management

management, and receiving no kind of aſſiſtance from him, we have an intire confidence in your conduct and care to provide againſt the ill effects to be apprehended from ſuch a ſituation; upon which we ſhall give you our ſentiments, leaving it always in your diſcretion to act as the circumſtances upon the ſpot may direct you.

It appears to us, that Shuja Dowla's intention is to make uſe of the advantage which he has in a numerous cavalry, to diſtreſs you, and cut off your ſupplies of proviſions; hoping by this plan to gain his point without the riſk of an engagement, in which he might have leſs expectation of ſucceſs, from the ſuperiority of our diſcipline. In this view he has ſucceeded ſo far, and we are apprehenſive of the ſame diſtreſs which has compelled you to retire to Patna, may in like manner make it as neceſſary for you to retreat to Bengal; as it will be in his power, by ſending parties of horſe between you and this province, to intercept any ſupplies from reaching you.

As you have never mentioned what ſtock of proviſions you have in the city, we have no ſatisfactory information upon the point; but unleſs it is much greater than we can flatter ourſelves it is, the daily conſumption, without any ſupply, muſt ſoon reduce it. To avoid this danger, if it is poſſible to take with you by any means a ſtock of a few days, and by forced marches bring Shuja Dowla to action, it appears to us to be an adviſeable meaſure.

If you think this impracticable, or not adviſeable, the next alternative that occurs to us is, to leave a part of the army ſtrongly poſted at or near Patna for the ſecurity of the city, or either conduct yourſelf or ſend the remainder of the forces acroſs the river, to march from thence into Shuja Dowla's country, puſhing directly for Banaras; by which they would not only cut off the ſupplies which come to Shuja Dowla from that quarter, but probably induce Bulwant Sing to come over to our intereſts, and join in diſtreſſing him on that ſide. It is at the ſame time probable, that upon the appearance of ſuch a force, other parties may riſe upon his dominions, who may be glad to ſeize ſuch an occaſion to favour ſome pretenſions of their own.

It is not ſuppoſed that Shuja Dowla would leave his own country expoſed to many enemies, for the ſake of carrying on an unprofitable war in Bengal; but if he ſhould, notwithſtanding the march of the detachment of ours into his country, take the reſolution of paſſing Patna, and entering Bengal, the part of the army left at Patna muſt come down to us by water, excepting a gariſon of ſeapoys for the defence of the city; which when joined by the force we have at Burdwan, and the reinforcement we may ſoon expect from Madraſs and from Europe, will be ſufficient to oppoſe him, and eſpecially at a ſeaſon when the rains will make it very difficult for horſe to act.

Concerning the proceedings of the party on the other ſide of the river, in caſe of Shuja Dowla's return; we can only ſay in general, that we would have the war carried on in his country; for which purpoſe our whole force could join again in ſuch manner as you may find the moſt adviſeable.

With reſpect to the Nabob, his preſence will always be an incumbrance to you; and it would be much better for him to remain at Patna, or return to Calcutta.

We cannot help expreſſing ſurpriſe, that the parties which have harraſſed our camp, have never met with any reſiſtance from his horſe: if the Nabob keeps none, it is abſolutely neceſſary that you ſhould endeavour to entertain a body of horſe, to act under your own orders, and who muſt be paid by the Nabob.

HENRY VAN SITTART,
SAMUEL MIDDLETON,
RALPH LEYCESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

Fort William Conſultation, 14th May, 1764.

On the 11th inſtant we received the following Letter from Major Carnac, dated Camp near Patna, the 4th.

Gentlemen,

The united forces of the enemy, who were exceeding numerous, and had with them a conſiderable number of cannon, preſented themſelves before us early yeſterday, in order of battle; and after cannonading ſome time at a diſtance, began a little before noon a very vigorous and warm attack. Sombre, with the choice of the infantry, ſupported by a large body of cavalry, made an attack upon our front; but not being able to advance upon ſo heavy a fire as we gave them, they lay under cover, waiting for the ſucceſs of the aſſault upon our rear where the enemy exerted their principal efforts: it was ſun-ſet before we had completely repulſed them: our people were ſo extremely fatigued with the labour of the day, and having been up moſt part of the preceding night in expectation of the attack, that they were not able to purſue, and the enemy took the opportunity of the duſk to carry off their cannon: I had enough to do to look to every quarter, as I was obliged to divide my attention between the city, the Nabob's camp, and our own poſt. All the principal officers diſtinguiſhed themſelves in their reſpective ſtations; and I cannot ſay too much of the good behaviour of the army in general, and in particular of the ſeapoys, who ſuſtained the front of the attack. The enemy muſt have met with

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an immenſe loſs, as our fire was very cloſe, and extremely well diſtributed. I have not yet been able to get an exact account of ours, in Europeans it is inconſiderable: Captain Nottikens and Lieutenant Gardiner are the only officers wounded, but both dangerouſly; the former has received ſuch a wound as, it is thought, will occaſion the loſs of a leg; and the latter has had both his legs broke.

I wait with impatience to know what effect this ſucceſs will have upon the deſigns of the enemy.

I am, with great reſpect,
Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
JOHN CARNAC.

Camp, near Patna,
the 4th May, 1764.

Agreed, we do now reply to this letter, in the following terms: that it is with real ſatisfaction we have received the advice of his ſucceſs: that ſo ſevere a repulſe given to the enemy on their firſt attempt, we ſhould hope may be attended with the moſt favourable conſequences to our cauſe; and that being extremely ſenſible of the ſhare which may be attributed to his good conduct in this eſſential ſervice, we beg leave to return him our beſt acknowledgements: that it gives us pleaſure to obſerve on this occaſion that ſuch a general perſeverance and order prevailed among the troops, particularly among the ſeapoys; and that we deſire he will return our beſt thanks to all the officers and men for that bravery and good behaviour.

Agreed, we do further adviſe the Major of Mr. Watts's return; and deſire he will uſe his endeavours to perſuade the Nabob to come down as ſoon as poſſible, as he muſt only be an incumbrance to him in camp, and we have many material points to ſettle with his Excellency here.

Fort William, the 21ſt May, 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Hugh Watts, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
Meſſrs. Middleton and Burdett indiſpoſed.

Not having received any advices from Major Carnac, ſince the fourth inſtant,

Agreed, we write to him, that this ſilence has laid us under the neceſſity of taking our information of affairs of the army from reports and private letters. By theſe we are given to underſtand, that, ever ſince the repulſe of the enemy on the 3d inſtant, their army has lain within two or three coſs of our camp. That, latterly, frequent meſſages have paſſed between their camp and ours, and particularly, that Mendi Aly Cawn has come over to us with ſome of his dependants. That as we are convinced of the treacherous diſpoſition of the people we have to deal with, and have no accounts from him of the plan on which he proceeds, we cannot help apprehending bad conſequences from this delay, and that the enemy may be endeavouring to amuſe, and gain time to anſwer ſome purpoſe of their own, perhaps forming parties in the city of Patna, or in our camp. That he will eaſily perceive, by the tenor of all our letters, that we had reſolved, from the beginning, not to treat with Shuja Dowlah, if ever he took the part of Meer Coſſim, and that we departed not from this reſolution even when our army was under ſome difficulties; far leſs ſhall we think of ſuch a meaſure now, when he is at the head of an army which, we flatter ourſelves, will be ſure of ſucceſs whenever they engage. That we had a convincing proof of the good diſpoſition of the troops from their behaviour in the laſt action; and as his apprehenſions on this head ſeem to be the only point of difficulty, we hope he has, before this time, made uſe of their good diſpoſition in attacking and driving the enemy out of the country. That we can entertain no thoughts of treating with Shuja Dowla, having no conception of any conceſſions which it is in his power to make us: that the only ones we could ever liſten to, muſt be the delivery up of Meer Coſſim, Sombre, and our deſerters; and thoſe, from the part they compoſe of Shuja Dowla's ſtrength, we judge it by no means in his power to perform; nor would we have our operations ſuſpended for the ſpace of one hour until theſe perſons are put into our hands. That we have much reaſon to imagine the Nabob may give into any overtures for a negociation, from the vain notion of holding the Subadar by the King's authority, independent of our ſupport; but that he muſt by no means be allowed to carry on any correſpondence without his (the Major's) knowlege, neither in the preſent circumſtances to receive any ſunnuds from the King or Shuja Dowla. That in this and all other meaſures the Nabob muſt be intirely ruled by him whilſt the war continues.

Agreed, that we further adviſe the Major of Captain Stibbert's promotion to a majority, reſolved on this day in the other department.

Agreed, that we write likewiſe to Mr. Billers, the chief at Patna, directing him, whilſt the war continues, to adviſe us daily of the occurrences, ſo far as may come to his knowlege.

Received a letter from Mr. Gray, at Maulda, dated the 13th inſtant, acquainting us, that he cannot comply with our orders of the 7th, for purchaſing grain, unleſs we ſend him a ſum of money; that he however takes all opportunities of encouraging the merchants to ſend rice to camp, and that he has prevailed with ſeveral to a large amount.

Agreed, we write him in anſwer, that as it is not in our power to ſend him any ſupply of money, we muſt be ſatisfied with the meaſures he has taken for aſſiſting the army with grain; and have only to deſire, that he will continue to prevail on the merchants to carry thither as large quantities as poſſible.

HENRY VANSITTART,
H. WATTS,
R. LEYCESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

Conſultation, 24th of May 1764.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 16th, acquainting us, that he has delayed thus long writing to us, ſince his laſt, from his conſtant expectation of a freſh attack, which his daily intelligence has given him reaſon to believe the enemy were preparing for: that he ſo effectually covers the Nabob, that he thinks it his buſineſs rather to receive than give the attack, eſpecially as the manœuvre of the enemy ſeems intended to draw him after them, that they may have an opportunity of detaching a party to carry off the Nabob, in which they would probably ſucceed was he to leave them; that beſides, in his preſent poſition he can contain the ſeapoys; whereas when they are puſhed forwards, there is no poſſibility of preventing them from preſſing on and breaking, which Captain Swinton and himſelf have experienced in one or two ſkirmiſhes, not being able to ſtop them from advancing irregularly and firing, tho' they threw themſelves in their front: that he is ſorry to have occaſion to add, as another reaſon to his little dependance on a part of his Europeans, occaſioned by an uncommon inſtance of miſbehaving in a detachment of about one hundred and twenty of them, which he had ſent in the 13th and 14th with Captain Smith's battalion of ſeapoys to reconnoitre to the eaſtward of the city, in expectation of ſurpriſing ſome of the enemy there; that by ſome miſmanagement they were fired upon from the walls of Patna, tho' without receiving any damage; but that the whole of the Europeans went immediately to the right about; that this may perhaps have aroſe from a general panic occaſioned by the firing, but that he rather ſuſpects it was done deſignedly by the foreigners, of whom the advanced guard was chiefly compoſed; that Captain Smith's ſeapoys notwithſtanding proceeded in the courſe he had directed, but found nobody: that Captain Weymyſs with the marines had joined him, but he left Captain Maugen on the other ſide, with the remainder of the detachment, where he has performed a very material ſervice, in defeating a body of troops collected by the diſaffected zemindars in the Sircar Sarang diſtrict, which he hopes will ſecure to us that country: that as the enemy have kept ſo long hovering about their preſent ſtation, he thinks it probable they do not chuſe to involve themſelves further downwards; and if they continue to keep aloof, he ſhall watch their motions, and wait for an opening to attack them with the leaſt riſk and the moſt advantage: that he has received our letter of the 26th ultimo, with the letter for Shuja Dowla: that Nundcomar's late behaviour has been ſuch as to remove almoſt entirely the ſuſpicion of his being engaged in treachery, however faulty he may have been in other particulars: that ever ſince the appearance of the enemy he has, by his maſter's and his own earneſt requeſt, kept cloſe to him (the Major) which is a ſtrict argument that he was not concerned in any treaſonable practices, as he was under his eye, and could not of conſequence himſelf reap any advantage therefrom.

The Preſident lays before the board the following Tranſlates of Letters which he has received incloſed in one from the Nabob.

From Shuja Dowla to the Nabob.

Dated the 12th of May, 1764.

Formerly, when theſe provinces were in your poſſeſſion, the Engliſh making an agreement with Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn carried you to Calcutta, and appointed him to the government; afterwards they quarrelled with him, and brought you again from Calcutta; agreeably to the hearty friendſhip I have for you, I was much rejoiced at hearing this news; and you muſt accordingly remember the letters which I wrote to you ſome time ago. Upon your arrival on this ſide of Patna, I procured you the ſunnuds from the King, and intended diſpatching them to you, with a kellaat: in the mean time I received advice that the Engliſh were making a diſturbance, and wanted to ſend you by force from Saont to Calcutta. Since, notwithſtanding his Majeſty had conferred honours upon you, and the hearty friendſhip I bear you is clearer than the ſun, yet the Engliſh, regardleſs both of the royal favours and my friendſhip, were guilty of ſuch unjuſtifiable behaviour, I therefore marched this way, not at Meer Coſſim's deſire, but becauſe I could not ſuffer the King's country to be ſo ruined and deſtroyed, now that his Majeſty has beſtowed theſe provinces upon my ſon Auſhuph-ul-Dowla, who is your nephew.

nephew. Look upon yourſelf as the rightful manager of all the affairs of government, and deliver it from the daily inſults to which it is expoſed. Affairs ſhall not remain upon their preſent footing, nor ſhall the hand of any one be upon you; the diſtricts which belong to the Engliſh I will get confirmed to them by the King, in caſe of their faith, obedience, and attachment.

From Rajah Beny Bahadre to the Nabob.

The negotiations which were ſome time ago carried on by Rajah Shitabroy, whether he ſpoke by your authority, or of his own head, went on ſucceſsfully; but they were afterwards interrupted by the miniſters of the court, who cauſed the preference to be given to the enemy's deſires, and accuſed me of ſiding with you and the Engliſh. Hitherto I have remained ſilent, for want of an opportunity having offered. I have overſet the cauſe of the enemy and his adherents: but whilſt I am negotiating in this manner, I am uneaſy, leſt you and the Engliſh chiefs ſhould refuſe to act agreeably to my repreſentations, and I ſhould thereby fall into the utmoſt diſgrace; I have therefore ſent Chinta-byram to you with all expedition, who will fully inform you of every circumſtance. If this affair meets with your approbation, be pleaſed to acquaint me with your pleaſure, and, by the bleſſing of God, every thing will be happily ſettled, and whatever agreement I make will be complied with; if not, inform me ſo in plain terms, that we may act accordingly.

From the Nabob to Shuja ul Dowla, in Anſwer.

I have been honoured with your friendly letter. At the time when that tyrant, Meer Coſſim, fled from theſe provinces to your Highneſs's dominions, the Engliſh were deſirous of purſuing immediately, over the bridge which he had paſſed, in order to bring to juſtice for his violences and oppreſſions; but I forbad them, and prevailed upon them to encamp on Durgaonty Nulla, on this ſide the Carumnaſſa, for theſe four months paſt. What earneſt and repeated ſolicitations have been made you, both by the Engliſh and myſelf; but you would by no means liſten to our requeſts; through the intrigues of wicked men you have refuſed juſtice to the Engliſh, and have proceeded to theſe lengths. Although in the time of former Nazims the affairs of theſe provinces have always been negotiated at the imperial court through the means of the head buckſny, yet on account of my hearty attachment to your Highneſs, I have ever repreſented my affairs to you; and as you were ſeveral times graciouſly pleaſed to do me the honour of declaring that you would be anſwerable for my buſineſs, I ſet my heart at eaſe, in full confidence in your promiſes, and never made application to any other perſon; and the Engliſh, through my perſuaſions, were ſo faithfully attached to you, that they were ready to attend you, and to ſacrifice their lives in your ſervice. Now, likewiſe, if you will do them juſtice on that tyrant Meer Coſſim, they will not be negligent in ſhewing their fidelity to you; and my attachment and hearty obedience will daily encreaſe.

From the Nabob to Rajah Beny Bahadre, in Anſwer.

I have had the pleaſure of receiving your letter, wherein you write that the negociations which were carried on by Raja Shitabroy went on ſucceſsfully, but were afterwards interrupted by the miniſters of the court, who cauſed the preference to be given to the enemy's deſires, and accuſed you of ſiding with me and the Engliſh: that till this time you had no opportunity of ſpeaking on the ſubject; but now an opportunity having offered, you have overſet the cauſe of the enemy and his adherents: that you are uneaſy leſt I and the Engliſh chiefs ſhould refuſe to act agreeably to your repreſentations, and you ſhould thereby fall into diſgrace: that you have therefore ſent Chintalyram, who will inform me of all circumſtances: that if you meet with my approbation every thing will be happily ſettled, and whatever agreement you make will be complied with; if not, that I ſhould inform you in plain terms, that you may act accordingly.

Chintalyram has acquainted me with all particulars, and I explained the whole to Major Carnac, the commander of the Engliſh army; who replied in the following terms: "When "Meer Coſſim fled out of this country into the Vizier's dominions, the Engliſh chiefs were "deſirous of purſuing him immediately, in order to revenge themſelves on him; but in com- "pliance with your deſire, they halted at Durgaouty Nulla, on this ſide Carumnaſſa, and, for "the ſpace of four months, made continual complaints to the Vizier, requeſting him to puniſh "Meer Coſſim for his oppreſſions and cruelties: his Highneſs, far from conſenting to do us "juſtice, even liſtened to the intrigues of the enemy, and complied with his deſires: neverthe- "leſs, if he will now favour us, and either deliver Meer Coſſim and Sumeroo into our hands, "to be duly puniſhed, or himſelf impriſon them, in recompence for their crimes, the Engliſh "are ſtill ready to perform the duties of obedience and fidelity; but, till juſtice is done us, "other matters cannot be treated of." In caſe his Highneſs will be kind enough to revenge the cauſe of the Engliſh, I likewiſe will not fail to ſhew forth a due obedience and attachment. With regard to what you write concerning your having overſet the enemy's cauſe, and your being uneaſy leſt you ſhould not gain my conſent and the Engliſh gentlemen; in caſe you can prevail upon the Vizier to do juſtice, either way, as above mentioned, and will be anſwerable

for

for it, be aſſured that you will meet with our entire approbation, as you will be fully informed by Chentylaram.

Agreed, We write to Major Carnac, incloſing him copies of theſe letters, and acquainting him we find from them, that the enemy have made propoſals for trading, and propoſals have been given them, that we might be inclined to come to terms: that we adviſed him in our laſt, and now repeat, that we ſhall receive no propoſals from Sujah Dowlah, neither would we ſuffer any of his meſſengers to come into our camp, or the Nabob's, unleſs Meer Coſſim, Sombre, and our deſerters be ſent delivered up: that the Nabob in his anſwer to Beny Bahadre's letter we muſt ſuppoſe has ſaid in his (the Major's) name, more than ever he could aſſent to; but how far ſoever he may be made privy to this negotiation, we cannot help expreſſing our ſurpriſe, that he takes no notice of it in his letter now before us. Further, in anſwer to his letter, that we have paid due regard to the reaſons which he urges for having continued to act ſo long upon the defenſive; but that we muſt ſay they do not carry the ſame weight with us: with regard to the Nabob, that he cannot poſſibly expect, nor can our whole army ever be allowed to remain in a ſtate of inaction, merely to protect his perſon, eſpecially when it is conſidered that this end may be as effectually ſecured by his retiring into Patna: that on this ſtep, therefore, he muſt immediately determine, unleſs he ſhould rather reſolve to accompany our army, and take an equal chance with them in attacking the enemy: that the miſbehaviour of the party of Europeans, in the night of the 13th and 14th, we hope may have been owing entirely to the unexpected fire on them from the walls of the city; but if, on the contrary, there is really any remains of mutiny or diſſatisfaction among the troops, it is certain there is nothing ſo dangerous, or can tend more to encreaſe ſuch a diſpoſition, than waiting in inaction the attacks of the enemy: that this is a ſtrong reaſon for purſuing the plan we have recommended of acting offenſively; and a ſtill ſtronger is, that if we allow the war to be protracted in this country, it will be impoſſible for us to ſupply him with the immenſe ſums of money which are now required in defraying the expences of the army; for we already find ourſelves greatly diſtreſſed to diſcharge the draughts from the paymaſter, and anſwer the demands of other detachments, which have taken the field, with the current expences of the ſettlement: that the Nabob's welfare and intereſt being ſo intimately connected with ours, we think he cannot well refuſe to aſſiſt us in this point, whenever he has it in his power; and that we therefore deſire he will repreſent to him the preſent neceſſity, and endeavour to obtain a general order on the Naibs of Moorſhedabad and Dacca, for the payment of whatever ſums we may call for on our receipt: that in his letter he acknowleges to have received ours of the 26th ultimo, with the Preſident's letter to Shuja Dowla; but does not mention his having ſent it to him, that if he has not, we deſire he will pleaſe to forward it according to our firſt intention, as we think it is proper that letter ſhould be ſent him at all events.

29th May 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Commodore Tinker,
John Spencer, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Hugh Watts, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 19th inſtant, acknowledging the receipt of ours of the 7th, and 9th, and acquainting us, in anſwer to the latter, That he has long had in view the operation we recommend as the alternative, and thinks it bids the faireſt for totally diſconcerting the enemy; but that it cannot be begun till the arrival of Captain Wedderburn; by which time he alſo expects the waters will be riſen; and will then, unleſs in the interim he has the good fortune to perform ſomething deciſive, ſet about putting it into execution: that Bulwant Sing he always ſuſpected was only amuſing him with the proffered treaty; and his conduct has demonſtrated it ſo, for that he is perſonally with Shuja Dowla; and his troops were amongſt the moſt forward in the laſt attack: that in the precautions we have taken to have him ſupplied with grain, and the advantage of the river, he ſhall be ſecure of proviſions: that in his preſent ſituation, he finds no other inconvenience but the want of cavalry; and that he propoſes, therefore, employing Mendee Ally Cawn, to raiſe a body of Moguls, amongſt whom he has much intereſt, and to add to Mirza Shabar Beg's troops.

APPENDIX, No. 67.

The Preſident lays before the Board, the following Tranſlations of further Letters from the Nabob, &c. on the ſame Subject as thoſe minuted on laſt Conſultation.

From the Nabob.

Dated 15th May, 1764 (13th Zeccada of the 5th Year) received the 26th Ditto.

I have already ſent you copies of letters which I have received from the Vizier of Rajah Beny Bahadre, and of my anſwers to them; by the contents thereof you muſt be acquainted with the King's having granted the three provinces to the Vizier's Son. At preſent Rajah Beny Bahadre and Aſſud Aly Cawn, brother to Golaum Aly Cawn, deceaſed, who is an old friend of the Vizier's, in conſequence of his Highneſs's directions, have written to me in anſwer to my letters, to give up only the province of Patna. Copies of theſe letters, and my anſwers to them, I have ſent encloſed, for your obſervation; when you are acquainted with the particulars thereof, be pleaſed to let me know what you think adviſeable to reply to this demand, that if they again treat with me on this ſubject, I may write to them accordingly.

Copy of a Letter from Marajah Beny Bahadre, to the Nabob.

I have had the pleaſure to receive your letter, mentioning that in caſe the Court will revenge the cauſe of the Engliſh, you are ready to perform the duties of obedience and fidelity. The ſentiments of friendſhip, which were before engraved on my heart, are not expreſſed in the contents of your letter; but I imagine you have good reaſon for writing in ſuch a manner: out of the great regard I have long had for you, I entered on a negociation with you, notwithſtanding your unfriendly behaviour. I was in hopes that in order to make amends for your paſt neglects, you would have given your conſent, and ſettle things on a proper footing; all depends upon the bleſſing of God, and your and the Engliſh gentlemens approbation; as there is a hearty friendſhip between me and Aſſud Aly Cawn, and every negociation is carried on with his concurrence; I have fully acquainted him with all circumſtances tending to our mutual welfare, and he will write them for your information. Since you are a man of underſtanding and experience, you will doubtleſs give your conſent to what he repreſents to you. In caſe of your approbation, be pleaſed to inform me thereof, that I may ſend him to you; if not, whatever is the will of God.

Copy of a Letter from Aſſud Aly Cawn to the Nabob.

I with Mharajah Beny Bahadre preſented to the Vizier your letter in anſwer to mine, which I had the pleaſure of receiving at 9 o'clock in the morning, and the Mharajah preſented to him the letters which he had received from you, and at the ſame Mharajah Nundcomar's letters, and our hazee were preſented to him by Hoſan Aly Beg Cawn; on peruſal of them, his Highneſs was much diſpleaſed; and ſaid to Mharajah Beny Bahadre and me, "When a perſon has put himſelf under the protection of the King and the Vizier, where is the juſtice and propriety of delivering him into the hands of his enemies, or impriſoning him? That they have made ſuch demands. The contents of their letters can by no means be productive of good"—After many repreſentations, his Highneſs declared his final reſolution as follows: "Let the province of Patna be reſigned, the authority reſts with us, we will appoint whomſoever we pleaſe to the naibat of the province; when this point is agreed to, we will conſider about puniſhing the enemy, and doing juſtice to the Engliſh; otherwiſe they muſt be rooted out and deſtroyed. Moreover his Highneſs has given ſtrict orders that no one ſhould correſpond with you; but Mharajah Beny Bahadre and I have written you the particulars, agreeably to his Highneſs's and Mharajah's orders: conſider them well, and ſend me ſuch an anſwer, that theſe diſturbances may be removed. Encloſed is a letter from the Mharajah.

Copy of the Nabob's Anſwer to Mharajah Beny Bahadre.

I received your letter wherein you write, that the ſentiments of friendſhip, which of old were engraved in your heart, are not expreſſed in the contents of my letter; but you imagine I have good reaſon for writing in ſuch a manner: that out of your regard for me you entered on a negociation with me; notwithſtanding my unfriendly behaviour you were in hopes that I would now ſettle matters, in order to make amends for paſt neglects: that all depends upon the bleſſing of God, and mine and the Engliſh gentlemen's conſent: that you have acquainted Aſſud Aly Cawn with all circumſtances tending to our mutual welfare; that I ſhall be informed of them by letter from him, and you will ſend to me in caſe of my approbation; if not, whatever is the will of God.

Aſſud Aly Cawn's letter has acquainted me of the particulars of this affair. As I had the greateſt confidence in your friendſhip, I did not expect you would have written to me in ſuch a manner; I am in the utmoſt ſurpriſe at your making ſo unexpected a demand of me, and at your regarding my requeſt, that the Engliſh may have juſtice done them, as contrary to the ties of friendſhip. Had you formerly promiſed to puniſh the enemy on condition of my aſſenting to ſo improper a demand as you have now made in Aſſud Aly Cawn's letter, my obedience

would not have carried me ſo far as to engage me in any thing productive of ſhame and repentance; nor ſhould I have neglected the care of honour. Since you are inclined to war, you will not be pleaſed with any reaſonable or juſt propoſal that I may make you. If ſuch are your views, no agreement can be made, and till an agreement is made, the ſending Aſſud Aly Cawn would be uſeleſs; as for the reſt, whatever is the will of God is beſt; he that cannot procure juſtice from the King, will procure it from God. I have written an anſwer to Aſſud Aly Cawn's letter; by that you will be acquainted with the particulars.

P. S. From the contents of your laſt letter, I perceive that what you ſaid to me by Chintalyram, and what you wrote me in the letter which you ſent by his hands, was all a dream.—Where ſuch inconſiſtency appears, it is a difficult matter for a kingdom to flouriſh.—In all caſes I am very ready to obey any reaſonable and juſt command: a little attention and conſideration is neceſſary on your part alſo.

Copy of the Nabob's Anſwer to Aſſud Aly Cawn.

I have been favoured with your letter, acknowleging the receipt of one from me; and mentioning that you, with Mharajah Beny Bahadre, preſented it to the Vizier; and that at the ſame time my arzee to his Highneſs, and Mharajah Nundcomar's letters, were preſented to him by Hoſein Aly Beg Cawn: that he was diſpleaſed on peruſal of them, and ſaid to Mharajah Beny Bahadre and you, "When a perſon has put himſelf under the protection of the King "and the Vizier, where is the juſtice or propriety of delivering him into the hands of his ene- "mies, or impriſoning him? that they have made ſuch a demand. The contents of their "letters can by no means be productive of good: that it his Highneſs's final reſolution that "I ſhall reſign the province of Patna: that he will appoint whomſoever he pleaſes to the naibat "thereof: that when this point is agreed to, he will conſider about puniſhing the enemy, and "doing juſtice to the Engliſh, and that otherwiſe we muſt be rooted out and deſtroyed: that "he has given ſtrict order for no one to correſpond with us but Mharajah Beny Bahadre, and "you, and that you ſend me incloſed a letter from the Mharajah." What ſhall I write to ſo unjuſt and unreaſonable a demand? How can I conſent to a propoſal ſo foreign from my own inclinations, and ſo contrary to the rules of friendſhip? As his Highneſs has been pleaſed to reſt his doing juſtice to the Engliſh upon ſo unequitable a condition, it is evidently his reſolution not to do them juſtice; you could yourſelf repreſent in a proper manner the unreaſonableneſs of this propoſal, but that you are reſtrained by the fear of offending: I have by no means neglected the duties of obedience and fidelity: notwithſtanding it has always belonged to the head buckſhy to negociate the affairs of theſe provinces, yet I placed my whole dependance upon his Highneſs the Vizier, and not to any one elſe; and now this is the reward I reap. My letters contained nothing but a petition of juſtice, and profeſſions of fidelity: ſince then his Highneſs is nevertheleſs offended at it, to what can this be attributed but to deceit and artifice? Since my ſincere and juſt repreſentations are not conſented to, but produce ſuch unreaſonable demands in reply, I ſhall remain ſilent in future; if you think it unjuſt and improper to inflict due puniſhment on ſuch a tyrant and murderer, on account of his having put himſelf under the protection of the King and Vizier, with what right do you order me to give up the province of Patna, which has ſo lately been confirmed to me by firmaunds and ſunnuds under their ſeals? With regard to what you write about me conſidering this affair, the paſt is gone; the future is uncertain. This is my ſtate at preſent; what will it be to-morrow? In caſe I now conſent to this demand, what remains for me to do hereafter?—Since ſuch are his Highneſs's intentions, it is unneceſſary and uſeleſs to carry on any further correſpondence. With regard to the rooting us out, and deſtroying us, we depend on the bleſſing of the Almighty, and truſt that he will fulfil our hopes. I have ſent for your peruſal, copies of two letters in anſwer to thoſe received from Mharajah Beny Bahadre.

As by theſe letters it appears, that a correſpondence, and ſteps to a negociation are ſtill carrying on between the Nabob and Shujah Dowla, we think it abſolutely neceſſary to have a gentleman ſtationed at the durbar, to ſend us the neceſſary advice, on this and many other material points; and as in the preſent ſituation of affairs it would be too much time loſt to ſend a reſident from hence;

Agreed, Mr. Batſon be appointed to attend conſtantly at the Nabob's court, and that we do write him the following inſtructions.

Sir,

As the conſtant attention which Major Carnac is at preſent obliged to pay to the motions of the enemies, and the operations of our own army, may prevent him from obtaining and ſending us the neceſſary information of what paſſes from the Nabob's court, we have thought proper to appoint you reſident at the Durbar: we direct therefore, that you enter upon this office immediately on receipt hereof, tranſmitting to us daily advice of every thing that occurs.

By the encloſed copies of ſome letters which have paſſed between the Nabob, Shujah Dowlah, Beny Bahadre, and others, you'll perceive that terms have been propoſed for a negociation; but we have yet heard nothing on this ſubject from the Major; we muſt deſire you will

inform

inform yourſelf, as far as you can diſcover, what may be the Nabob's motives and views in ſuch a ſcheme, and what ſteps have been taken in it; for our own part we are reſolved to enter into no treaty with Shuja Dowla, unleſs Meer Coſſim, Sombre, and our deſerters, be firſt put into our hands, as a preliminary; you will therefore acquaint the Nabob that this is our reſolution, aſſuring him we will accede to no treaty he ſhall make, on any other terms.

In our letter to Major Carnac of the 3d April laſt, we deſired he would inform himſelf, and adviſe us of the ſtate of the Nabob's finances, and how they are managed; the ſtate of, the number, and expence of, his army; the names of the principal officers he employed, and depends upon, and of the principal perſons about his court, and in his councils; we have alſo deſired in later letters to the Major, that he would apply to the Nabob for general orders on the naibs of Moorſhedabad and Dacca, to pay us whatever ſums we may have occaſion to demand, on our receipt, in order to aſſiſt in defraying our preſent heavy expences, and for tuncaws for twenty laaks of rupees towards the payments of loſſes from the reſtitution fund. The execution of all theſe points will now become your duty, and we deſire you will exert your beſt endeavours to ſatisfy our inquiries, and obtain the orders and tuncaws as ſoon as poſſible; we ſhould think a compliance with the money demands cannot ſubject the Nabob to any inconvenience, as he has had the time in his hands for making the heavy collections of the year, and no large diſburſements that we know of.

We have acquainted Major Carnac of your appointment, and ſent him a copy of theſe inſtructions, recommending to carry on any buſineſs he may have with the Nabob jointly with you.

We have only further to recommend to you the greateſt vigilance and attention, and to deſire that you will be particularly careful in conducting yourſelf towards the Nabob, in order to preſerve as great a confidence as poſſible between his and our government.

As Mr. Batſon may poſſibly have left Patna before theſe inſtructions can reach there;

Agreed, Mr. Billers do in that caſe take the duty of reſident upon him, leaving the buſineſs of the Patna factory, as far as may be neceſſary, in charge of the ſecond.

Agreed therefore, that another paragraph be added at the end of the inſtructions, adviſing of this our intention, and that the outer addreſs be to Mr. Billers in caſe of Mr. Batſon's abſence.

Agreed, we write to Major Carnac, adviſing him of this appointment, encloſing him copy of the inſtructions, and recommending to him, agreeably thereto, to carry on any buſineſs he may have at the durbar, jointly with the reſident:—further, in anſwer to his letter, that the meaſure of croſſing over the river with part of the army, and carrying the war into Shuja Dowla's country, was only an alternative propoſed on the ſuppoſition that it would not be in his power to bring the enemy to action; that this is far from being the caſe at preſent, as they have for ſome time paſt kept our army in a manner inveſted; and we would therefore by no means recommend that meaſure now, until he has firſt brought them to action on this ſide, and defeated them, and then of courſe he muſt purſue them, and proſecute the war in the moſt advantageous manner: that we have now repeatedly given him our opinion for attacking the enemy; but if he really thinks this meaſure impracticable, we deſire he will acquaint us fully with his reaſons, and what plan he would propoſe for bringing the war to an iſſue; and that we muſt beg he will be very particular in every circumſtance, that we may be enabled to form a proper judgment, and co-operate with them to the utmoſt of our power: that we do not think any confidence can be propoſed in Mendee Aly Cawn, or any other perſon that deſerts from the enemy, and we therefore cannot approve of his propoſal to place him at the head of a body of cavalry; on the contrary we muſt recommend his keeping a watchful eye over him, to prevent his engaging in any treacherous deſigns: that in raiſing the Mogul cavalry, we ſhould chuſe he ſhould entertain only the inferior officers and private men, and give the command of them to Captain Spelman and the other former officers of our cavalry: that according to the country eſtabliſhment, they are for the moſt part liable to be ſo defrauded of their pay by their jemautdar, which renders them remiſs in their duty, and indifferent for the good of the ſervice they are engaged in; whereas by becoming ſubject to our diſcipline, and receiving their pay in a regular manner, we may expect they will in a ſhort time be attached to us and our officers, as much as our ſeapoys are.

H. WATTS,
SAMUEL MIDDLETON,
R. LEYCESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

HENRY VANSITTART,
J. SPENCER.

Conſultation, 7th June 1764.

The Preſident lays before the Board the following Letter, which he has received from Mr. Billers.

Dear Sir,

I have received your favour of the 12th inſtant. On the 23d in the morning, the enemy left the ground where they have for ſome time laid encamped, and retired about three coſs from our army, where they again pitched their tents; we have not been able to diſcover with certainty, whether

whether the whole or only part of their forces remain there ; at leaſt there is reaſon to believe, from the motion of their baggage and ſome other circumſtances, that their intentions are to quit our neighbourhood.

Major Carnac having thought proper to fix the departure of the private letters from hence to two days in the week only, you will not be alarmed if the dauks do not arrive with you ſo frequently as uſual.

I am, dear Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble Servant,

Patna,
the 25th May 1764

WILLIAM BILLERS.

He further acquaints, that by a letter from the Nabob of the 25th May, he is adviſed that Shuja Dowla, diſpirited by the ill ſucceſs of his troops in the Sircar Serang country, and of thoſe collected under the Rajah of Carrickpore, had broke up his camp the 23d, and was retiring towards his own dominions, but he (the Preſident) is informed by other letters, that their army had retreated no further than Pulwaree the 28th, and that our army ſtill remained in their firſt encampment.

Agreed, we do write to Major Carnac, adviſing him of the purport of Mr. Billers's letter, and the further information which the Preſident has received: that this being the only intelligence we had received of ſuch an alteration in our affairs in the Bahar province, we have not ſufficient grounds for giving him any further inſtructions; but that we cannot help declaring ourſelves highly offended at his neglecting to write to us, from the 19th to the 29th, after receiving our orders to write every day; and we muſt deſire he will acquaint us with his reaſons for this diſobedience: that we alſo deſire to know the reaſon for his having limited the departure of private letters from Patna to two days in the week, as by his own letter of the 19th, he apprehended no danger of our correſpondence being interrupted ; and it appears that this order was not iſſued till after the receipt of our directions to write daily, and after the enemy had quitted their encampment and retired from us: that we deſire in future there may be no alteration made in the courſe of the dauks, and that the Preſident, at our deſire, has accordingly directed Mr. Billers to diſpatch them every day as uſual: that we ſhall hope for ſatisfactory reaſons for his having ſuffered the enemy to retreat ſo much at their leiſure without moleſting them ; and we ſhould imagine it is unneceſſary to repeat here the ſentiments we have already ſo explicitly declared to him, forbidding any propoſals for a negociation to be received, unleſs Meer Coſſim, Sombre, and our deſerters, be firſt delivered up.

Conſultation, 11th June, 1764.

Received a letter from Mr. Billers, dated the 31ſt ult. acknowleging receipt of our orders of the 21ſt, and acquainting us that the enemy had moved off, and, by the beſt intelligence he could get, were near the Soane.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 1ſt inſtant, acquainting us, that the enemy have been ſo continually ſhifting their ground round the city of Patna, at the diſtance of about four coſs, that there was no poſſibility of judging their intentions; that he therefore could not addreſs us, without the riſque of deceiving us ; and ſo various were their accounts, that each day's letter would have been a contradiction of the paſt ; and that this has been the reaſon of his long ſilence: that it is probable, that the enemy's ſo frequent change of their poſition was in order to prevent his acquiring ſuch a knowledge thereof, as would have enabled him to attack them with advantage ; and that their cavalry has been ſo properly diſpoſed of, that he could never reconnoitre without ſkirmiſhing, nor get near enough to make the neceſſary diſcoveries. That the enemy's keeping ſo ſhort a diſtance from him was no doubt through the hope of being able to get into the city, or to carry off the Nabob by ſome treachery, and for the better opportunity of debauching our troops; and that his precautions have effectually defeated their ſchemes: that one of the Nabob's officers in the city had engaged to give the enemy admiſſion at his poſt; he had him hanged at the place which he was appointed to defend. That three Frenchmen have got off to the enemy, a fourth was taken in the attempt, for which he ordered him inſtantly to be hanged, without the ceremony of the court martial ; and that no attempt has been made ſince. That Shuja Dowla, finding himſelf deceived in the fond hopes he had of carrying all before him, has evidently, for ſome time paſt, wanted to introduce a negociation, in order that he might go back, and yet ſave his credit. That he has letters in proof thereof from moſt of his great men, which, he thinks, are dictated by Shuja Dowla, though his pride would not permit him to make the advance directly for himſelf. That he incloſes us ſome of the original letters, with the copy of one which he has received from the King, moſtly wrote in his own hand; and that he has wrote him the anſwer, which he has invariably given to all who have interfered: that he would hearken to no terms of accommodation whatever, unleſs Meer Coſſim and Sombre were firſt delivered up to him. That, with regard to Captain Swinton, he has acquainted the King he would comply with his requeſt, provided a perſon of the firſt rank amongſt them was ſent to remain with him as a hoſtage ; that he was in expectation of ſome one being ſent accordingly, but that the Vizier, he ſuppoſes, could not be brought

brought to ſubmit to his demands. That the whole marched off the 30th, and great part got to the mouth of the Soane that evening, and that he expected ſhortly to hear of their having croſſed it. That he is ſelecting a detachment to be croſſed directly over to the Gauzepoor country, under the command of Major Champion, where he ſhall order him to do all the miſchief he can till the rains are ſet in, during which he may canton at Chupra, and the whole may then be ready to renew the campaign in the enemy's country the moment the ſeaſon will admit of it.

That we are determined to proſecute the war againſt Shuja Dowla; and being of opinion that the rains will not be any impediment to the operations; but, on the contrary, with regard to receiving proviſions and ſtores, rather a convenience, from the advantage of the rivers, we hereby direct, that he do immediately put the army in motion, leaving the neceſſary gariſons in Patna and Mongheer, and croſs the Soane, and purſue the enemy as far as the Ganges, oppoſite to Benaras, endeavouring, if poſſible, to bring them to an action. That in any operations on the other ſide of the river, it is our view to make as much advantage as we can, without leſſening greatly the ſtrength of our army, by the detachment that is ſent; that they may therefore endeavour to take poſſeſſion of the Gauzypoor country, and collect its revenues, to aſſiſt in defraying the expences of the war; that we deſire the officer commanding may be inſtructed, and that it may alſo be obſerved as a general rule on all other occaſions, to prevent any ravages being committed on the country, or injuries being done to the inhabitants; on the contrary, that all manner of encouragement and protection be given them, in order to gain their affections. That we have directed Captain Grant, with the two battalions of ſepoys, and two guns, which are at Jelliagurree, to march on to Patna, from whence they may be ordered on ſuch ſervice as the Major may think proper. That having many neceſſary and material points to ſettle with the Nabob, we have wrote to him and Mr. Batſon to come down to Calcutta, and have deſired the Nabob to leave with the Major ſuch part of his cavalry as he thinks may be of ſervice, and recommended to him to diſcharge all the uſeleſs troops of his army; alſo to deliver into the Major's hands ſecurities for the payment of two lacks of rupees a month, to defray the expences of the army.

Fort William, the 14th June 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident.
Commodore Tinker,
John Spencer, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.
Mr. Watts indiſpoſed.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 5th inſtant, acquainting us, that he forgot in his laſt addreſs to acknowledge the receipt of our ſeveral letters of the 14th, 17th, and 21ſt ult. and that he has ſince received that of the 24th. That the plan he has purſued, has been to the full as diſagreeable to them, as he finds it is to us; yet the ſtate of our affairs ſeemed to require it, and ſo probably we would ourſelves have judged, had we been upon the ſpot; that had he acted otherwiſe, he muſt have run counter to the unanimous ſentiments of all the principal officers whom he conſulted upon the occaſion, which was more than he could anſwer to, where ſo much was at ſtake: that the event has in ſome meaſure decided in favour of this ſentiment, as the enemy have been reduced to the neceſſity of withdrawing, without his putting any thing to the riſk: that our army, if ſtaunch, was a full match for the enemy, muſt by all be readily allowed; but it was generally believed, eſpecially by ſuch as had been witneſſes of the former ill behaviour, that diſaffection ſtill prevailed amongſt many of the Europeans, which was reſtrained from breaking forth, only through the fear of puniſhment, and the want of opportunity; and that a number would have deſerted, but that it was rendered exceedingly difficult ſo to do, by the poſition he had taken, and the good look-out that was kept: that how far the ſpirit of mutiny is yet from being thoroughly quelled, we may judge from the proceedings of a general court martial held on two men, which he incloſes: that he thinks it very natural the Nabob ſhould be very deſirous of holding the nezamut by virtue of the Royal phirmaund, the religion as well as education of all Muſſulmen teaching them to regard this as the only regular conſtituted authority; yet Meer Jaffier has not appeared to them to be of himſelf over forward for a negotiation: that in this particular he certainly has been influenced by Roy Dulub, who has all along been extremely deſirous of one: that he well knows meſſages frequently paſſed between him and the enemy on the ſubject, but as this was not the proper channel, he gave himſelf little trouble about it, and deemed it unneceſſary to give us any: that when offers were made to himſelf, the reality whereof he was aſſured of, he immediately communicated them, with his anſwers, which were conformable to our orders: that he deferred forwarding the letter from the Preſident to Shuja Dowla, in hopes he might at length be induced to deliver up Meer

Coſſim and Sombre, for the getting of whom into our hands, he perſuaded himſelf we would with pleaſure have ſacrificed our reſentment againſt Shuja Dowla; but as that point is not likely to be obtained, it will ſerve as an introduction of our detachment into his country, and he will take care to have it tranſmitted to him by the firſt ſafe opportunity, with one from himſelf to the ſame purpoſe: that the Nabob is very ready to make the ſeveral aſſignments we require, but wiſhes to have it deferred till his arrival in Calcutta, for which place he purpoſes ſhortly ſetting out, and is extremely anxious that himſelf ſhould accompany him: that he only waits our permiſſion to come down accordingly, to prepare for his paſſage home, which he is determined to take this ſeaſon: that the enemy are all over the Soane, and Major Champion has croſſed the Ganges, but his embarkation was a good deal retarded by the ſtrong eaſterly winds which have of late prevailed: that the detachment conſiſts of upwards of three hundred Europeans, rank and file, including the marines, and Captain Mangent's Company, three battalions of ſeapoys, with 5 ſix-pounders, and 2 or 3 ſmaller pieces: that he has gleaned the foreigners from this detachment, and would recommend their being diſarmed (except ſome few, of whoſe attachment he is convinced) and ſent to ſerve on board his Majeſty's ſhips: that by this means a confidence may again be acquired in our troops, without which no vigorous meaſure can ever be undertaken.

This letter of the Major's having been fully conſidered;

Agreed, We do write him the following anſwer—That we think it abſolutely neceſſary to proceed againſt Shuja Dowla without loſs of time, nor ſtop till we have convinced him that we are capable of acting offenſively as well as defenſively; otherwiſe we ſhall without doubt be liable to have the provinces invaded, whenever the ſtate of affairs in his own country will admit of his turning his thoughts this way: that we muſt therefore (with the exception herein after mentioned) repeat our orders of the 11th inſtant, for the army's croſſing the Soane without delay; and we have great reaſon to believe, that the plan therein laid down will be rendered more effectual by the attacks which it is probable Shuja Dowla will receive from Gauzoordin-Cawn, the Jauts, and the Marattas, who are reported to be actually on their march to invade his country: that we have always been of opinion, and ſtill continue to think, that the force under his command is quite ſufficient to act offenſively againſt Shuja Dowla; and that himſelf was of the ſame opinion, in his letter of the 17th of April, which was ſome time after the mutiny, and before he was joined by Captain Weymyſs's detachment: that we muſt alſo here repeat our ſentiments, that a ſpirit of mutiny is much more likely to break out in an army acting upon a defenſive, than an offenſive, plan, however he mentions, that the principal officers have all along agreed with them in the expediency of acting defenſively. We deſire he will now communicate our orders of the 11th inſtant, and this letter, to the other field officers, the commandant of the King's troops of the Bombay detachment, and of the artillery, and the three ſenior captains, which with his own is in all nine voices, and let them give their opinions ſeparately in writing, whether they think our plan practicable with the force at preſent under his command—If not, what addition of troops will be requiſite, that we may reinforce them accordingly; it being abſolutely neceſſary, for the reaſons above mentioned, to act upon the offenſive: that theſe opinions, after taking a copy, he will pleaſe to tranſmit immediately to us, and if two thirds of their opinions ſhould concur, that the preſent force is inſufficient for executing the plan propoſed, we would not have the army advance further than the banks of the Soane, until the reinforcements arrive; and we deſire he will, in ſuch caſe, caution Major Champion not to advance ſo far as to be compelled to engage with a force too ſuperior to his own: that ſuch of the foreigners, particularly Frenchmen, whom he has reaſon to ſuſpect of being mutinouſly inclined, we deſire he will ſend down to Calcutta; and that we have ordered Captain Kinlock to march up immediately with his company: that we have already, oftener than once, expreſſed a deſire of ſeeing the Nabob in Calcutta, and are glad to find he intends coming ſoon: that with regard to the Major's requeſt, he has our permiſſion to come down whenever he thinks proper, leaving all our inſtructions with Major Champion, for his government in commanding the army.

SAMUEL MIDDLETON,
R. LEYCESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

HENRY VAN SITTART,
J. SPENCER,

At a Conſultation, 21 June 1764; PRESENT,
The Honourable Henry Van Sittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
Commodore Tinker,
John Spencer, Eſquire,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Hugh Watts, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
Mr. Burdett, indiſpoſed.

The

The Conſultation of the 18th inſtant being wrote fair, was now read, and approved.

Received the following letter from Major Carnac, dated the 10th inſtant:—Myr Bychu has been again with me, and brought me letters from the King Munyr o Dowlah, and Shakir o Dowlah, with aſſurances that Myr Coſſim ſhould be arreſted and puniſhed; and Shuja Dowlah has himſelf wrote to me, declaring he would abide by what Munyr o Dowlah promiſes. I have returned with him this general anſwer: that nothing could procure them a reconciliation with the Engliſh, and their friendſhip, but the actual delivery to us of Myr Coſſim and Sombre. The Nabob and his Miniſters are of opinion that this will at leaſt be conſented to: I cannot ſay I flatter myſelf with ſo happy an event; yet, whilſt there are the faineſt hopes of theſe villains being conſigned to our vengeance, ſurely we owe ſo much regard to the memory of our murdered friends and countrymen, to try to bring it about; to effect which, I think we ought readily to forgive Shujah Dowlah's invaſion. I entirely concur with you, Gentlemen, that peace ought not to be made with him upon any other terms; and that he is deſirous of an accommodation ſeems probable, from his having diſpatched expreſſes to call to him Shitabroy, who is daily expected at their camp. Shujah Dowlah muſt come to a ſpeedy determination, as the ſcene of war is now ſhifting towards his country, Major Champion having begun his march, though I fear he will not be able to proceed far, as the rains appear to be ſetting in, and our troops have ſuffered ſo much from the former campaign as not to have ſtrength ſufficient to bear the fatigues of another; however, they may be cantoned ſo near as to have it in their power, in caſe matters be not accommodated, to commence the campaign in the enemy's country early the next ſeaſon, by which time it is to be hoped our army may be ſo weeded and reformed as to act with a confidence of ſucceſs.

I have been favoured with your letter of the 29th ultimo. I ſhall give over all thoughts of employing Mendy Aly Cawn, as you diſapprove thereof; but muſt beg leave to differ from you in opinion, that a ſerviceable body of cavalry can be formed upon the plan you propoſe; the Moguls, who are the only good horſemen in the country, can never be brought to ſubmit to the ill treatment they neceſſarily receive from gentlemen wholly unacquainted with their language and cuſtoms. We daily ſee the ill effects of this among our ſeapoys, and it will be much more amongſt horſemen, who deem themſelves of a far ſuperior claſs; nor have we a ſufficiency of officers for the purpoſe. I am ſorry to ſay, not a ſingle one qualified to afford a proſpect of ſucceſs to ſuch a project. Captain Spelman is entirely wore out, and no longer fit for ſervice in the field.

Received two letters from Mr. Batſon, dated the 9th and 10th inſtant; the former acquainting us, That he has taken charge of his office at the durbar; that a correſpondence has been ſome time opened between the King, Shujah Dowla, Beny Bahadre, and others, and the Nabob; and that Major Carnac has alſo received letters from them; that he finds the Nabob has an inclination to treat and come to an accommodation with the enemy, though there appears to him but few ſigns of ſincerity on their part; neither can he conceive what motives or views the Nabob can have therein; that he conjectures he is deſirous of making a friend of Shujah Dowla, at preſent a troubleſome and dangerous enemy to him, and that he wiſhes to ſee his intereſt ſtrengthened by his alliance, rather than to depend upon us alone for ſupport; and he ſuppoſes, for the accompliſhment of theſe ends, he is willing to make conſiderable ſacrifices: that in the freſh letters from the King, Shujah Dowlah, &c. they are very earneſt for having Captain Swinton ſent to them, in order to promote an accommodation; and they promiſe Meer Coſſim ſhall be puniſhed, but not delivered up, of which letters he will procure and ſend us copies; that the Nabob promiſed to give him an anſwer the next day to his application for general orders on the naibs of Moorſhedabad and Dacca, and the 20 laaks of rupees towards the reſtitution fund; and that he ſhall inform himſelf as particularly as poſſible, and duly adviſe us on the other points recommended in his inſtructions, as well as of every thing that paſſes at the durbar, worthy our notice. In the ſecond letter he informs us, that the Nabob ſays, he cannot give the general orders required, nor the money for the reſtitution fund, until the Poonea is paſt, which is to be fixed in a ſhort time; Shitabroy is ſhortly expected, in order to carry on a treaty for an accommodation, though he knows not what good can be expected from it; and that the Nabob thinks Shujah Dowlah will demand the province of Bahar, in return for the delivery of Meer Coſſim.

Theſe letters having been read, and conſidered;

Agreed, We write the Major the following anſwer:

'The object we have in view is the ſame as your's; that is to ſay, the obtaining the ſurrender of Meer Coſſim, Sombre, and our deſerters, into our hands; but we always have been, and ſtill continue to be of opinion, that we never ſhall carry on this point, or any other, by negotiation, unleſs our army is at the ſame time in condition, and actually in motion, to enforce the demand. In our laſt, we deſired the opinion of the nine principal officers, whether they think our force ſufficient to act offenſively againſt Shujah Dowla? If they do, a vigorous uſe of that force is the moſt certain way to obtain the conceſſions we require: if not, to treat is only to expoſe our own weakneſs; for it never can be ſuppoſed that Shujah Dowla will give up points ſo much to his own diſhonour, to an enemy, whom he is convinced is capable of acting

againſt

againſt him in all caſes. Therefore we are of opinion that no good can come by treating, but that it may be productive of dangerous conſequences, from the opportunity it may afford the enemy of carrying on treacherous deſigns under that cover. For theſe reaſons, we have frequently, in former letters, forbid treating on any other terms than the preliminary before mentioned; and, for the further explanation of our ſentiments, we now poſitively direct, that the next meſſenger who comes from the enemy's camp be ſent back, with an anſwer in writing to Sujah Dowla, declaring plainly, That he is not to hope for a reconciliation with us on any other terms than the ſurrender of Meer Coſſim, Sombre, and our deſerters; and that any perſon whatſoever, who afterwards may come to the camp with any other propoſals, ſhall be impriſoned as a ſpy; and if, notwithſtanding this declaration, any ſuch ſhould come, you are, without fail, to treat him accordingly.

As we perceive, by Mr. Batſon's letters, that the Nabob ſeems much inclined to an accommodation, and thinks that Shujah Dowlah will probably require ſome conceſſions on our part, ſuch even as the ſurrender of the province of Bahar; we judge it neceſſary to acquaint you that we will not conſent to the giving of any money on the ceſſions of any territory, either as Jagheer or otherwiſe; and that nothing ſhall be ſtipulated on our part, in return for his compliance with our demands, but a promiſe, that we will not invade his country in return for his attack upon us, nor join or aſſiſt his enemy.

All theſe directions we mean ſhall be equally binding on the Nabob as yourſelf, our intereſts in this reſpect being inſeparable; and we therefore direct, that no meſſages be ſuffered to paſs between him and the enemy, nor treaty be carried on between them on any other terms than thoſe preſcribed to you; and of courſe, that no ceſſions of money or territory to Shuja Dowla be allowed of; you will accordingly acquaint the Nabob with the directions we have given you, with reſpect to any meſſengers from Shuja Dowla, deſiring he will give the ſame anſwer to the firſt meſſenger who comes to him, and inform him that we expect he will treat all who may come afterwards in the manner we have ordered you.

With the copies of the letters you ſent us from the King, &c. you omitted to forward copies of your anſwers, neither have you ſent us the letters which Meer Coſſim brought at his laſt coming; we deſire you will ſend us thoſe, as well as the copies of all your correſpondence with the country powers, that after peruſal they may be tranſmitted to the Court of Directors: We further deſire you will ſend us a copy of the orders you have given to Major Champion; and that it may be always a rule, when any ſuch conſiderable detachments are ſent out, to tranſmit us a copy of the inſtructions given to the officer in the command.

You ſpeak of Major Champion's carrying the war into Shuja Dowla's country as a meaſure to be purſued, if the rains do not prevent him: We deſire to know the plan upon which you intend he ſhould proceed; as we cannot conceive how you can ſuppoſe him, with the part of the army under his command, to be able to act offenſively in Shuja Dowla's own country, when you with the whole army could not take the field againſt him here, or attack him when he was within a ſingle march of the city of Patna; and how the whole army will be more able to act offenſively after the rains than they have in this campaign.

Conſultation 25th June 1764.

Received a letter from Major Carnac, dated the 16th inſtant, acquainting us that the detachment he ordered over the Ganges has procured the effect he expected from it; for upon advice of their having croſſed the Dewa, and begun hoſtilities in the diſtricts of Gauzypoor, Shuja Dowla has judged it neceſſary to retire towards his own country; that whilſt he continued in the neighbourhood of the Soane the Major did not think proper to quit his ſtation near Patna; but he now propoſes croſſing the Ganges himſelf immediately, though he fears himſelf the ſeaſon is too far advanced for his being able to do much more than ſtrike the alarm, the troops already beginning to feel the effects of acting in the rains.

Received two letters from the reſident at the durbar, dated the 14th and 16th inſtant; the former incloſing a liſt of the principal officers employed at the Nabob's court; and acquainting us, that Nundcomar Roy is the perſon in whom he chiefly confides, and by whoſe advice he is guided in all principal affairs; and that next to him the Kinſmen Haken Beg are in the greateſt truſt: that the Kealiram, a perſon belonging to Shitab Roy, is come from the enemy with letters, and meſſages and letters are frequently coming; that as far as he can judge they are endeavouring to prevail on the Nabob not to take away the jagheers poſſeſſed by Shuja Dowla and other principal perſons belonging to him and the King, and to prevent Major Champion's expedition againſt Gauzypoor from being put in execution. In the ſecond he incloſes a paper of news lately received from Delly, explaining the diſpoſitions of the chief powers of Indoſtan towards one another, and confirms the intelligence contained in the Major's letter, as to Shuja Dowla's further retreat.

Shuja Dowla having now decamped from his laſt poſt on the other ſide of the Soane, and taken the rout towards his own country, there remains no kind of argument for the Nabob's making any longer ſtay at Patna: and as the points which we have to ſettle with him are of the moſt eſſential conſequence for the ſecurity both of his government and our own;

Agreed,

Agreed, We write to Mr. Batſon, deſiring he will repeat to the Nabob for his coming to Calcutta in the moſt urgent manner, and prevail on him to ſet out without loſs of time—In further explanation of the Company's orders in regard to the method of conducting the correſpondence with the country government, and with a view to render their intentions in this point more effectual.

Conſultation, 28th June 1764.

Received the following letter from Major Carnac, dated the 17th inſtant.

Some time after the diſpatch of my addreſs to you yeſterday I received your letter of the 7th, together with its duplicate.

I have already aſſigned to you the reaſon of my ſo ſeldom writing to you; viz. that I was unwilling to deceive you, which I muſt have frequently done had I wrote daily, ſo various were the movements, and contradictory our accounts, of the enemy; whenever I had certain intelligence I never failed immediately communicating it to you.

It was natural enough to conjecture that the enemy, as they had not been able to effect any thing, would be for going away; and upon this conjecture Mr. Billers, I ſuppoſe, gave his information; for they had been only ſhifting their ground for ſeveral days, and did not actually move off till the 30th ultimo, nor did they take any Pulwarry road; and of this movement we were brought in doubt the next day by a pair of Hircarrahs, who declared they were juſt come in from them, and that they had drawn nearer to us. It was neceſſary to be fully aſcertained in ſo material a point before I wrote to you: by a reconnoitring party I found theſe Hircarrahs had groſly impoſed upon me (I have ſome ſuſpicion they were tutored ſo to do) and this occaſioned a delay of one day in addreſſing you.

So many letters were daily diſpatched from camp, that our dauks, in caſe of being intercepted, had it not in their power to ſecrete their packet; I therefore, upon advice that the Kivininggpur Rajah had croſſed ſome people over the river, thought it beſt to limit the private correſpondence to twice a week, that ſo the public letters might have a better chance of paſſing, which were ſtill to go in the uſual courſe; ſo that Mr. Billers had no occaſion to delay the forwarding his letter to the Preſident: I don't recollect the exact time when I recommended this regulation to take place, but it was ſoon diſcontinued.

I judged the puſhing a ſtrong detachment over the Ganges, and entering the enemy's country by that ſide, to be the moſt effectual means of precipitating them homewards; and this we ſee has anſwered. I doubt, if they had not been obliged to look to their own frontier, whether they would have ſo quickly quitted ours; and as their principal force conſiſts in cavalry, which appears to be extremely good, and to be well verſed in what their peculiar advantages conſiſt, they might have led us about the country, without aiming to any thing deciſive.

Read the letter incloſed from Major Champion to Major Carnac.

Agreed we write the following anſwer to the letter from Major Carnac.

That we are reſolved to continue the war againſt Shuja Dowla, until he ſubmits to the conditions we have preſcribed; viz. the delivery of Meer Coſſim, Sombre, and our deſerters; that the object therefore of the detachment on the north ſide of the Ganges muſt be to prevent Shuja Dowla from croſſing the river, by deſtroying any bridges he has made, or may attempt to make, over it; taking poſſeſſion at the ſame time of as large tract of his country as they can, and, if poſſible, of the city of Benaras, and collecting the revenues; but avoiding all manner of plunder and ravage; particularly ſhould the detachment advance ſo far as to ſeize the city of Benaras, ſpecial care muſt be taken that no plunder is committed there: that we ſuppoſe the remainder of the army which was left at Patna, has, agreeably to our orders of the 14th, advanced to the banks of the Soane; if not, that this will be a neceſſary caution, as long as Shuja Dowla remains on this ſide the Ganges, to prevent his recroſſing into Bengal; and the army likewiſe, from that ſtation, will be nearer at hand to join Major Champion, or to reinforce him, in caſe Shuja Dowla ſhould have marched ſo faſt as to get to Benaras before him, or any other circumſtances render it neceſſary: that whenever Shuja Dowla ſhall ſubmit to the terms above mentioned, we deſire our troops may be withdrawn out of his territories.

No. 68.

Fort William the 20th February, 1765.

To John Johnſtone,
Aſcanius William Senior,
Samuel Middleton,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquires.

Gentlemen,

HAVING thought proper to nominate you a deputation from the board to get the treaty with the new Nabob, Najim ul Dowla, and ſome conſequent arrangements and inſtructions executed, we herewith encloſe the treaty in two copies, executed on our part; and when the Nabob has acceded to the articles on his, you will deliver our copy to remain in his poſſeſſion, and return the other to us; you will afterwards ſee him ſeated in due form on the muſnud, and cauſe proclamation to be made of his acceſſion at the city, and places adjacent, giving us immediate advice thereof, that we may have him alſo proclaimed at Calcutta, the army, and the ſubordinate factories.

For your more particular information and government on the ſubject of your deputation, and the other inſtructions we have to give you, we refer you to the encloſed extract from our Conſultation of the 14th inſtant, and recommend your proper attention to the whole, and that you will keep us punctually and fully adviſed thereon.

With reſpect to the buſineſs intended to be allotted between Roydulub and Nundcomar, we have however to deſire here, that when you have made ſuch a diviſion thereof as you think will, agreeably to our intentions, bring their powers nearly upon an equality, you will adviſe and explain the ſame to us for our further inſtructions, before it is carried into execution, and in the mean time the collections are to be continued in the hands they now are.

The late Nabob having thought proper to conſider the ſervices of the ſquadron under the command of Mr. Tinker, by giving them a grant for twelve laaks and a half of rupees, we promiſed our aſſiſtance for procuring the punctual payment thereof, ſo far as it might appear to us in his power conſiſtent with the performance of the engagements of his treaty; we have therefore further to recommend your engaging the new Nabob to a confirmation of the grant; and herewith we encloſe a copy of the terms to be left with the Preſident at the durbar, that he may afterwards preſs the payments as they become due. We underſtand that a ſmall balance of the donation to the army remains ſtill unpaid, which you will therefore alſo endeavour to procure the immediate diſcharge of.

The officers in command of the troops ſtationed at the city will receive the orders of the deputation through Mr. Johnſtone.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient Servants.

No. 69.

Extract of Company's ſeparate Letter to Bengal, 24 December 1765.

Par. 5. THE war being begun againſt Coſſim Aly Khan, we approve the meaſures you took in conducting it till the battle of Buxar. But the demand of the Gauzepoor country, the undertaking to conquer Souja Dowla's country for the King, and the treaty you have made with him, we ſhall give our opinion of ſeparately. The demand you made of having Coſſim Aly Khan, Sombre, and the deſerters, delivered up to you was conſiſtent with the objects of the war, and your ſucceſs entitled you to add reparation for the expences of the war; but to demand the Gauzepoor country, a frontier ſurrounded with warlike people, we conceive was a meaſure by no means adequate to the end propoſed, and abſolutely a contradiction to our repeated directions not to extend our poſſeſſions. The anxiety we feel on this occaſion is not to be compared to what we ſuffer at the engagement you have entered into with the King to conquer Souja Dowla's country for him; had you puſhed on after the battle of Buxar, the force of your arms muſt ſoon have brought Souja Dowla to conſent to your terms; but giving away his country rendered him deſperate. In his conference with Major Munro, he plainly tells you he can expect no aſſiſtance till you have conquered the country, and then he ſhall have friends enough; and the iſſue, as far as your advices reach, is ſuch as we imagined; you are entangled by your connections with him, ſeem to doubt whether you can accept even your own terms from Souja Dowla, and in the mean time your new ally ſo far from a ſupport is even to be ſupported in the expences of his houſehold; and Nudjeef Cawn, the only man the King pretended to a connection with, by your laſt advices, is marching againſt you.

Par. 17. We are much concerned for the death of Jaffir Ally Cawn, the more ſo for the critical juncture at which it happened, while the army was at ſo great a diſtance; the acknowledging his ſon ſeems to have been the moſt prudent meaſure for preſerving the tranquillity of the country; we wiſh this circumſtance may have checked your views of conquering Suja Dowla's country for the King; a ſcheme which ſeems to exclude all poſſibility of peace, which alone can make our ſucceſſes profitable; nor are we without our apprehenſions that you may be led on to ſupport the King in his claims to the whole empire; for as you have, by taking poſſeſſion of the Gauzepoor country, deviated from our repeated orders, and departed from the ſpirit of our political views, not to enlarge our poſſeſſions, ſo we know not what bounds can ſtop you when our orders prove ineffectual.

Par. 18. The converting the temporary aſſignment of five lacks per month into a perpetual one would be an enlargement of our revenue that would be flattering indeed, could we perſuade ourſelves it was conſiſtent with that permanency which is our only object, and with the peace of the country; but unleſs we find you adopt ſome ſyſtem which clearly marks out the barriers of the country government and ours, how they may aid and ſupport each other, and unite their ſtrength againſt all foreign enemies, we ſhall deem all thoſe advantages merely temporary, and this height of proſperity ſubject to a fatal reverſe, the firſt check our arms may meet with.

Par. 19. As our ſervants have too readily laid hold of every opportunity to exact contributions, or procure donations from the late Nabob, we hope nothing of this kind has happened upon the ſucceſſion of his ſon, the preſent Nabob; however we would have you make the ſtricteſt enquiry therein, and inform us of every circumſtance, if any ſuch exactions have been made, and in particular of the names and conduct of all and every the ſeveral perſons concerned, and oblige them to refund the amount thereof into the Company's caſh for our further orders.

No. 70.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

27. WITH reſpect to the treaty with Nazem-o-Dowla, it is proper here to inſert at length the 5th article, which runs in theſe words: "I do ratify and confirm "to the Engliſh, the privilege granted them by their phirmaund and ſeveral huſbulhoo-"kums, of carrying on their trade by means of their own duſtuck, free from all duties, "taxes, or impoſitions, in all parts of the country, excepting in the article of ſalt, on "which a duty of 2 ½ per cent. is to be levied on the Rowana or Houghly market "price."

"price." This fifth article is totally repugnant to our orders contained in our general letter, by the Kent and Lapwing, dated the 1ſt of June 1764; in which we not only expreſſed our abhorrence of an article in the treaty with Meer Jaffier, literally correſponding with the preſent 5th article, but in poſitive terms directed you, in concert with the Nabob, to form an equitable plan for carrying on the inland trade, and tranſmit the ſame to us, accompanied by ſuch explanations and remarks as might enable us to give our ſentiments and directions thereupon. We muſt remind you too, that in our ſaid general letter we expreſsly directed, that our orders in our letter of the 8th February preceding, which were to put a final and effectual end to the inland trade in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, and in all other articles produced and conſumed in the country, ſhould remain in force until an equitable and ſatisfactory plan could be formed and adopted: as therefore there is not the leaſt latitude given you for concluding any treaty whatſoever reſpecting this inland trade, we muſt and do conſider what you have done as an expreſs breach and violation of our orders, and as a determined reſolution to ſacrifice the intereſt of the Company and the peace of the country to lucrative and ſelfiſh views.

This unaccountable behaviour puts an end to all confidence in thoſe who made this treaty, and forces us to reſolve on meaſures for the ſupport of our authority and the preſervation of the Company. We do therefore pronounce, that every ſervant concerned in that trade ſtands guilty of a breach of his covenants with us and of our orders; and in conſequence of this reſolution, we poſitively direct, that if that treaty is now ſubſiſting, you make a formal renunciation, by ſome ſolemn act to be entered on your records, of all right under the ſaid treaty, or otherwiſe, to trade in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco; and that you tranſmit this renunciation of that part of the treaty in form to the Nabob in the Perſian language. Whatever government may be eſtabliſhed, or whatever unforeſeen circumſtances may ariſe, it is our reſolution to prohibit, and we do abſolutely forbid this trade of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, and of all articles that are not for export and import, according to the ſpirit of the phirmaund, which does not in the leaſt give any latitude whatſoever for carrying on ſuch an inland trade; and moreover we ſhall deem every European concerned therein, directly or indirectly, guilty of a breach of his covenants, and direct that he be forthwith ſent to England, that we may proceed againſt him accordingly; and every native who ſhall avail himſelf of our protection, to carry this trade on without paying all the duties due to the government, equally with the reſt of the Nabob's ſubjects, ſhall forfeit their protection, and be baniſhed the ſettlement; and we direct that theſe reſolutions be ſignified publicly throughout the ſettlement.

No. 71.

Copy of the 58th Paragraph of the General Letter from Bengal, dated 12th November 1761.

WE directed Major Carnac and Mr. M'Gwire, and afterwards Colonel Coote and Mr. M'Gwire, to apply, as ſoon as Shah Allum ſhould be acknowledged King, for ſunnuds for the Company's poſſeſſions and privileges in Bengal; viz. the Zemindary of the Purgunnahs granted by the late Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, the Jageers of the provinces of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong, granted by the preſent Nabob, and the confirmation of the freedom of our mint; we directed alſo application to be made at the ſame time for the ſunnuds for the provinces of Arcot, in the name of the Nabob Aly Verdi Cawn, otherwiſe called Mhamud Ally Cawn, with whom we have been ſo long allied:—theſe requeſts were made by Major Carnac, who was detached by Colonel Coote to eſcort the King to the borders of the province; and the King wrote upon the papers of requeſts, that they ſhould be granted whenever a proper peſkauſh or tribute was remitted. The Major tranſmitted to us copies of the ſaid papers of requeſts with the King's ſuperſcription; and adviſed us at the ſame time, that the King had offered to confer on the Company the duannee of Bengal, on condition of our being anſwerable for the royal revenues; but as we are ſenſible that our accepting of this poſt would cauſe jealouſy and ill will between us and the Nabob, we thought it more prudent to decline it; all which you will obſerve more fully in our Conſultation of the 4th July.

Copy of 55th Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated 9th March 1763.

Your refuſal of the duannee of Bengal offered by the King was certainly right, and we are well ſatisfied with the juſt and prudent reaſons you give for declining that offer: however, it ſeems ſomething extraordinary to us, that at the time the King makes this advance, he ſhould return the applications made to him for the ſunnuds, to confirm our privileges and poſſeſſions in Bengal, granted by the late and preſent Nabob, in ſo looſe and unſatisfactory a manner, and even to require a piſcah or preſent before he paſſes the order in due form. The great ſervices we had rendered his Majeſty, and the generous treatment he met with from us, as well as from our ally the Nabob, during his ſtay at Patna, ſurely claimed a more diſtinguiſhed treatment, and at leaſt a full grant of our requeſt, without ſuch an

expenſive

expenſive demand annexed; the time and manner of the refuſal ſeem likewiſe very extraordinary; your applications being returned at the very juncture Major Carnac was eſcorting him to the Carumnaſſa, or borders of the province; a ſervice which muſt then be freſh in the King's memory; and therefore we think there is reaſon to apprehend the King is not ſo cordially attached to us as we might have expected: however, if you judged the obtaining ſuch ſunnuds to be abſolutely neceſſary, you have, we doubt not, continued your application to have them perfected. It was a prudent conſideration in you to add to your applications on this ſubject our ally, Ally Verdi Cawn, otherwiſe called Mahmud Ally Cawn, as Nabob of Arcot, which we ſuppoſe you have or will continue to do when you think proper to move again in this affair; and ſhould the King ſucceed in his pretenſions to the throne, the ſooner the grants are obtained, the leſs we apprehend will be the expence attending it.

No. 72.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. THIS ſhip, the Admiral Stevens, having been purchaſed to proceed to you as a packet, in conſequence of a recommendation from the Select Committee, we embrace the opportunity of tranſmitting you by her ſome general neceſſary informations ſince our laſt addreſs of the 11th of March by the Bute.

2. You were then adviſed of the arrival of the Lord Anſon, but that we had not as yet received any accounts either of the remaining tranſport, the Prince of Wales, or of the Kent; the former imported with us at laſt on the 17th of April, having for the purpoſe of refreſhing her recruits put in at St. Salvadore, on the Coaſt of Brazil, and the Cape of Good Hope. This indeed conſiderably retarded her, but the good conſequences thereof were happily experienced by the people, almoſt all of them having been landed here in perfect health: the Kent ſtopped alſo at Rio Janeiro, and the latter place; and having at Lord Clive's particular deſire put in afterwards at Fort St. George for a few days, and landed, at the requeſt of the preſident and council, the recruits on board, about 50 in number, arrived with us on the 3d of May, when his Lordſhip, being accompanied to town by a proper deputation, took charge of the government from Mr. Spencer: a letter of thanks was at the ſame time addreſſed to this gentleman for the regard he had ſhewn to the company's affairs, in continuing in the mean time to hold the charge: and at the return now of the proper ſeaſon he will proceed immediately to his ſtation at Bombay: Meſſieurs Sumner and Sykes having alſo arrived, took their ſeats at the board, according to their appointments.

3. We have only yet this ſeaſon had the honour to receive your commands of the 21ſt of November laſt by the Tilbury, which ſhip imported at Fort St. George the 15th of July: the Horſendon and Royal Captain arrived there alſo the 23d and 24th of June; and we ſince learn proceeded on their deſtination for China the 19th of July, the Tilbury being to follow them about the beginning of this month: we have not received any intelligence of your other expected ſhips on this ſide, but we are appriſed from Fort Marlbo' that the Thames and Groſvenor imported with them on the 28th of June and 4th of July.

4. We have further the pleaſure to acquaint you with the ſafe arrival of the Earl of Middleſex at Fort St. George, the 27th of May, from Fort Malbro' and Batavia, having been under a neceſſity of returning to the laſt port, after an unſucceſsful attempt to gain her paſſage againſt the northerly monſoon; and as this ſhip was now on high demorage, the gentlemen thought it would be for the intereſt of the company to return her to Europe, and reſolved to keep her accordingly for their firſt diſpatches. We have been informed from Fort Malbro' of her having with them from the French iſlands the remainder of the priſoners of war, who were left there, and choſe to return.

5. The Caernarvon ſailed from Fort St. George the 28th of March, and the Aſia having been diſpatched from Bombay on the 13th of April, to call on the coaſt for timbers and plank there provided for us, arrived here the 3d of June; we were at the ſame time adviſed that the Calcutta and London were under diſpatch to Europe from the preſidency, and of the departure of the York and Talbot from Tellicherry for Canton, on the 30th of April: from Fort St. George we learn that the Duke of Glouceſter, Duke of Richmond, and Earl of Elgin, bound likewiſe for that place, were at Batavia by the laſt advices they received from thence, dated the 27th of April: the Argo frigate, with the conſignment of treaſure to the ſupra cargoes, having ſailed by the Pitt's paſſage on the 29th of January; and from theſe gentlemen we are informed, under date the 5th of March, of the arrival with them of the Princeſs Auguſta on the 12th of January, and that ſhe was then under diſpatch to you together with the Earl of Lincoln.

6. Having taken immediately under conſideration your advices with thoſe we had before received from the gentlemen at Fort St. George and Bombay, and from Canton, with reſpect to the ſhips which would be on hand this ſeaſon, and attending to the ſtate of our inveſtment, and other neceſſary circumſtances, we thereupon formed a diſpoſition of them, which is entered for the ſake of reference after our proceedings; and from which you will pleaſe to obſerve, that beſides this packet, carrying a cargo chiefly of fine goods, and the Earl of Middleſex under diſpatch from Fort St. George, we expect to provide for five from this ſide; viz. the Pacifick, Grenville, Ponſborne, Falmouth, and Speke; of theſe the former will proceed to that preſidency in the month of December with a ſupply of ſalt petre, which they have requeſted may not be leſs than 200 or 250 tons, as the Middleſex would take off moſt of what they had on hand, to be returned from thence home in February: the three following we ſhall certainly return direct from hence fully laden; and we hope our inveſtment will enable us to ſend you the remaining one alſo; but if this ſhould not be the caſe, we propoſe employing her to carry the annual ſupplies from hence to Fort St. George for Fort Malbro', and then proceed on to China, to bereturne to you at the ſeaſon of 1766-7.

7. The great aſſiſtance which the gentlemen at Bombay received from us laſt ſeaſon, in the article of ſalt petre, and what we mean to ſupply them with this, at leaſt 25,000 maunds, will, we expect, enable them to return home the four ſhips conſigned to their ſide, as well as the Kent of laſt year, which we ſhall immediately ſend round to them; her late arrival having prevented her proceeding laſt ſeaſon: we alſo intend returning thither the Aſia, leaving to that preſidency her further diſpoſal, either by diſpatch to Europe, or providing her with a ſtock, and ſending her to be returned from China in the following ſeaſon.

8. This plan however, we muſt obſerve, is made upon a ſuppoſition, that the Falmouth comes out on the ſame terms and footing as the reſt of the ſhips, in which caſe we conclude it may ſtand good; but, if on the contrary, ſhe is an old veſſel for ſale in India, we can forward home the whole of our inveſtment by encreaſing the bale cargoes of the other three from one thouſand or twelve hundred bales, to fourteen or fifteen hundred; and leſt any accident ſhould happen to either of theſe, we ſhall defer the diſpatch of the Aſia till the beginning of November, when we hope to be upon a certainty, and ſhall determine accordingly.

9. The conſignments to the ſupra cargoes at Canton, for the ſervice of this ſeaſon, are ſo very conſiderable, including the remittance of ten lacks of rupees made to them by the Argo, and what the gentlemen at Fort St. George adviſe us they have ſent them by the Tilbury, Horſendon, and Royal Captain, being pagodas 357.237.6.66. That they will be able to return home all their ſhips, and the three of laſt year beforementioned, to be at Batavia, as well as the York and Talbot from the Malabar Coaſt, with cargoes to the full ſtipulated amount in your preſent commands of lſt. 30,000. for each, and upon a computation from their advices, have afterwards remaining in their hands a large balance, near lſt. 120,000, in order to begin their inveſtment for the following year.

10. Having thus conſidered the ſubject, we gave immediately the neceſſary advice to the gentlemen at Fort St. George and Bombay.

11. On the arrival of the Kent the former preſidency borrowed from Mr. Sumner, to aſſiſt in making up their conſignments to the ſupra cargoes, the quantity of 38,000 ounces of Spaniſh ſilver, to be repaid him here, at the valuation in our mint, making ARs.90,437. 2. 9. We afterwards, upon their repreſentation, that the gentlemen at Bombay depended upon them to complete the ſtock for the Talbot and York, which was ſufficient near five lack of rupees, offered to aſſiſt them therein, by drafts, as far as four lack: and if the Aſia ſhould, as we at preſent intend, proceed to Bombay, we ſhall, in caſe of her after unavoidable deſtination to Canton, make further proviſion for that branch of your commerce, by a remittance of two or three lacks.—We muſt here add, that we pay due attention to your freſh inſtructions and commands reſpecting it, and ſhall, on all occaſions, afford it every aſſiſtance in our power.

12. Reckoning upon the Aſia's proceeding to Bombay accordingly, ſhe is now receiving 400 tons, or 12000 maunds, of the propoſed ſupply of ſalt petre; and we have alſo ſhipped on the Kent 100 tons, or 3000 maunds; we have likewiſe ſupplied that preſidency with money ſince our laſt advices, to the amount of above five lack of rupees, and ſhall continue honouring ſuch further drafts as they may make on us, either by immediate payment, or intereſt bonds, which they adviſe they ſhall leave to our option, on the terms on which they grant them.

13. The Bute did not receive her diſpatches from Ingelee till the 25th of March, owing to very tempeſtuous weather, and other difficulties and impediments in receiving on board the latter part of her cargo: after all, 280 bales and cheſts were returned to town, beſides 79 bales, which we are ſorry to mention were loſt in one of the ſloops as ſhe

was

was waiting to deliver them, making together tons 64. 10. Theſe Captain Maitland afterwards repreſented to us he was unable to take in, on account of the detachment of troops we had put on board the ſhip, and the large quantity of baggage they had carried with them, for which we had refuſed to make him any allowance of tonnage; but we beg leave to refer you, for a full relation of all the circumſtances, to his letters, and the maſter attendant's and export warehouſe keeper's reports, entered on our Conſultations of the 25th of March, and 1ſt and 4th of April; upon the laſt of which you will alſo particularly obſerve a proteſt and counter proteſt on the occaſion from the maſter attendant, and Captain Maitland, together with our remarks and ſentiments; and we ſhall here only add further, that the returned bales and cheſts are now ſent you by the Admiral Stevens, marked as we directed with the letter B, to denote, in diſtinction from the reſt of the cargo, their having been intended for the Bute, as alſo the warehouſe keeper's account of them, and of the loſt bales referred to in his reports.

14. We mentioned to you in our laſt addreſs from the ſecret department the arrival of Mr. Law, the French Commiſſary on the coaſt; and we are now to inform you, that having received the reſtitutions to be there made to that nation, he proceeded to Bengal, and on the 15th of June was put in poſſeſſion of Chandernagore by Mr. George Van Sittart, whom we appointed on this occaſion the commiſſary for his Britannic Majeſty; having afterwards adviſed us of the nomination of his deputies for receiving the ſubordinate ſettlements at Sydabad, Dacca, Jugdea, and Balaſore, the neceſſary appointments were alſo made on our part, and the two firſt places have been accordingly reſtored.—We have yet heard nothing concerning Jugdea; and with reſpect to the Balaſore factory, ſome objections have occurred upon its not being in the condition required by the terms of the treaty, which has prevented its being yet made over: Mr. Law has, however, now given his orders for its being received in its preſent ſtate, leaving thoſe circumſtances to be adjuſted between us upon further accounts from our reſpective commiſſaries; he has further ſet forth the title of the French Company to two ſpots of ground at Singhia and Chuprah, near Patna, which we have adviſed him ſhould in like manner be reſtored, upon his appointment of a perſon to receive them. We tranſmit you in the packet, for your information, copies of the acts of reſtitution of Chandernagore, thoſe for the other places being the ſame, only with the neceſſary alteration of terms.

15. Upon this occaſion we received a repreſentation from Mr. Law, touching the inconveniences and difficulties the French company and their agents would be expoſed to from our direct adherence to the terms of the treaty; which reſtrict them from erecting fortifications, or entertaining any troops in theſe provinces, accompanied by the copy of an anſwer on the ſubject, the original whereof he had before communicated to Lord Clive, which the miniſter for the India affairs had on his departure from France received from the Secretary of ſtate; he therefore expreſſed his hope that we would be induced to allow them a ſmall number of armed Europeans and ſeapoys, with a few pieces of cannon, and a proper lodgement to which they might retire in caſe of any ſurpriſe from the country people, aſſuring us particularly that he meant not to elude in the leaſt by this application, the effect of the conditions of the treaty.

16. Having properly conſidered the ſame, we agreed, with a reſerve to ourſelves of the right of withdrawing the terms whenever we might have reaſon to apprehend an improper uſe of them, to permit one officer and twenty European infantry, with one hundred ſeapoys, to be entertained at Chandernagore, and fifty of the latter at each of the ſubordinates; alſo to allow them a wall at Chandernagore, ſuch as they formerly had at Coſſimbuzar, and twenty pieces of cannon, not of a heavier weight than ſix-pounders, for the purpoſe of ſalutes on the uſual occaſions; which would at the ſame time fully anſwer the end of impoſing a proper reſpect on the country people: we further agreed to allow them five artillery men, for working theſe guns: And having communicated our determination to Mr. Law, we received his thanks in the name of the nation for the ſame; and a further aſſurance that no improper uſe would be made of any indulgence we might grant them.

17. Having alſo received an application from him, ſoliciting a ſupply of eight or nine thouſand maunds of ſalt petre, on the ſame terms as the Dutch, to aſſiſt in compleating their cargoes from hence and their other ſettlements; and finding by advices from Patna that our inveſtment this ſeaſon would enable us without any inconvenience to comply therewith, we agreed to ſpare them accordingly the laſt mentioned quantity, and gave orders for their being furniſhed with ſeven thouſand maunds immediately, and the remaining two thouſand in the month of December; remarking, however, to Mr Law at the ſame time, that no right to any part of this branch of commerce was from hence to be eſtabliſhed, though we ſhould with equal readineſs aſſiſt the Company when it could be done with the ſame convenience.

18. Immediately upon the arrival of Lord Clive we proceeded to fix the appointments of the field officers, agreeable to the eſtabliſhment in your commands of the 1ſt of June 1764, and General Carnac and Colonel Smith were in conſequence ſtationed to the 1ſt and 2d battalions.

19. The command of the 3d being vacant by the death of Major Knox, it would in courſe have devolved to Sir Robert Fletcher; but Lord Clive informing the board that although Sir Robert Baker was only mentioned in the letter as commandant of the artillery, he knew from what had paſſed between him and ſome of the gentlemen of the direction, reſpecting the appointments, that it was their intention he ſhould have the choice of ſucceeding to one of the battalions

in caſe of a vacany; and being at this time deſirous of having the 3d it was agreed to appoint him thereto accordingly.

20. Sir Robert Fletcher became in conſequence Lieutenant Colonel of the 1ſt battalion; and it was alſo agreed to promote Major Peach to the 2d, till the point of priority in rank between him and Major Champion was determined by your anſwer to the applications made to you, reſpecting that gentleman and Sir Robert Fletcher.

21. Proceeding then to the 3d appointment of Lieutenant Colonel, Lord Clive further informed the board, that on his arrival at the Cape he found there on his paſſage to Europe, Major Charles Chapman, of his Majeſty's 79th regiment, and that Meſſrs. Sumner and Sykes with Colonels Smith and Barker repreſented to him, that as the number of field officers was not complete according to the eſtabliſhment, and opportunity offered in their opinion of doing the Company great ſervice by introducing that gentleman as one, having on account of his particular merit been ſolicited by the preſident and council to remain at Fort Saint George in the command of their troops under General Laurence, which although he had declined, he was willing to come to Bengal with his Lordſhip, provided he had rank next after Major Peach—That he joined in ſentiment with thoſe gentlemen, and brought the Major here accordingly under ſuch a promiſe; and his Lordſhip therefore propoſed he ſhould have this appointment, not doubting in the leaſt your confirmation thereof.

22. Some debate paſſed at the board on this occaſion; upon which his Lordſhip informed them, that in virtue of the power veſted in him, for which he referred to the 36th paragraph of the general letter, we ſhould certainly grant the commiſſion in queſtion, but would wiſh to have their concurrence, and deſired the ſentiments of the ſeveral members might be collected, which you will find recorded accordingly on the proceedings; and Major Chapman was appointed the 3d Lieutenant Colonel.

23. Majors Champion and Stibbert, and Captain Hugh Grant, were afterwards appointed the Majors of the three battalions; and in conſideration of the long and faithful ſervices of Captain Chriſtian Fiſher, and as the former objection to promoting him was now removed by the appointment of ſo many officers of ſuperior rank, a major's brevet was alſo granted to him.

24. Before Colonel Smith proceeded to join the army we received a repreſentation from him, touching his appointments at this preſidency; ſetting forth, That he was poſitively aſſured he was to ſucceed to all the ſame, both civil and military, which General Carnac now holds in the ſervice; and expreſſing therefore his ſurpriſe at finding himſelf on his arrival precluded from the former, by the 19th paragraph of your letter; which expreſsly ſays, that after the death or departure of the general, no officer ſhall have a conſtant ſeat at the board without your leave, but only when military affairs are under conſideration; we beg leave to refer you to the repreſentation itſelf, of which a copy is tranſmitted in the packet, and we requeſt your orders in anſwer; taking at the ſame time liberty to offer it as our opinion to you, that the commanding officer of the troops ſhould upon all occaſions have a ſeat at the board.

25. The ſelect committee agreeably to your appointment was alſo formed directly upon the Kent's arrival; their powers were therefore communicated to our ſubordinate factories, and to the preſidencies of Fort Saint George and Bombay, and the neceſſary directions given in conſequence to the former, to obey all orders which they might receive from them; and the committee have from time to time laid before the board ſuch of their proceedings as they judge adviſeable and proper.

26. The covenants which you were pleaſed to ſend out regarding the acceptance of preſents from the country government, not having been at this time ſubſcribed to, this was the ſubject of their firſt conſideration; and they thereupon communicated to the board their opinion that the ſame ſhould be immediately executed in the form preſcribed by the members of the council, and the other ſervants of the Company, which was conformed to accordingly by the members preſent; and the ſecretary was ordered to prepare and tranſmit ſets for the ſeveral other gentlemen, both in the civil and military ſervice: Thoſe to the former have been all returned duly executed, as well as the greateſt part of the latter; but the diſtance the army has been from us, and the officers being variouſly diſperſed, has occaſioned ſome trouble and delay in getting theſe completed, and we wait the remainder of them to forward to you the whole together.

27. The next proceedings which the committee communicated to the council contained their reſolution for enforcing immediately the board's orders with reſpect to the return of the European agents from up the country, granting them a further indulgence of two months, to the 1ſt of Auguſt, which was afterwards prolonged to the 21ſt of October: Public notice was accordingly given of this reſolution; in conſequence whereof, we underſtand manyare arrived in Calcutta, and we ſhall take care that the reſt return alſo in due time.

28. The ſubſequent proceedings, for ſome time, were upon enquiry into the circumſtances of ſome ſums which had been received from the preſent Nabob, and others by the gentlemen who compoſed the deputation for the execution of the treaty with his Excellency, on the deceaſe of his father, viz. Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Senior, Middleton, and Leyceſter; as alſo by the other members at the preſidency, Meſſrs. Spencer, Playdell, Burdett, and Gray upon the ſame occaſion. We beg leave to refer you to the proceedings themſelves on this ſubject, and to the ſeveral minutes and defences entered thereupon on the regiſters of council and of the committee, and requeſt your ſentiments and determination on the whole.—We have only here to notice to you in particular, that Mr. Johnſtone has in conſequence, and for other reaſons ſet forth in his minute, reſigned your ſervice, and proceeds home by this opportunity.

29. At

29. At our conſultation of the 24th of June, Lord Clive entered a repreſentation and complaint againſt Mr. Burdett, for having in his office of Zemindar confined and detained, after application for his releaſe, a Ghaut-Manjee, or overſeer of boats, employed by his Lordſhip on the occaſion of an intended expedition up the country, to take upon him the command of the army, and ſettle affairs with the powers in thoſe parts; Mr. Burdett not being preſent at this meeting, an order was immediately iſſued to him for the man's enlargement: and his anſwer to the ſame having been received, aſſigning the reaſons for his proceedings, which did not appear ſufficient, and conceived in terms deemed diſreſpectful to the board, they determined that he ſhould make a proper acknowledgment both to Lord Clive and themſelves. His Lordſhip at the ſame time took leave of the board, to proceed on the buſineſs before intimated.

30. Mr. Burdett complied afterwards with this determination; and his Lordſhip having deſired to be acquainted therewith, it was accordingly communicated to him; but Mr. Burdett entered a minute on the ſtyle of his letter, in conſequence whereof further proceedings occurred; and theſe being likewiſe tranſmitted to his Lordſhip, we received an anſwer from him, confirming the opinion he had before given of that gentleman's conduct, in terms which determined Mr. Burdett, having before intimated his intention of returning this ſeaſon to Europe, to ſit no longer at the board, and he alſo reſigned your ſervice accordingly.

31. Lord Clive has ſince delivered in a minute, ſetting forth that he cannot accuſe himſelf of having given any cauſe for the reſentment expreſſed by Mr. Burdett, and his opinion concerning his repreſentation; referring to a letter from Raja Doolubram to Mr. Sumner, when preſident, in reſpect to a note of hand for a ſum of money, which he repreſented he had given to Mr. Burdett, upon the Nabob's acceſſion to the government, under the promiſe of his endeavours to procure him a ſhare in the adminiſtration, which he had not fulfilled, and therefore ſoliciting Mr. Sumner's aſſiſtance for the recovery thereof; of this minute and letter Mr. Burdett has had a copy, and we expect his anſwer.

32. Lord Clive having arrived in town, and reſumed his ſeat at the board, the 9th Inſtant laid before them an extract from the proceedings of the ſelect Committee held the 7th upon his return, accompanying the copy of a treaty of peace concluded by him and General Carnac, on the part of the honourable Company and the Nabob, with Sujah Dowlah, together with the tranſlation of a grant and Sunnuds obtained from the King for the Dewannee of theſe provinces, and of an agreement ſubſcribed to in conſequence by the Nabob, through the means of his Lordſhip and Mr. Sykes; as alſo tranſlations of other Sunnuds from the King, confirming to the Company their former poſſeſſions, and ſecuring to them the reverſion of Lord Clive's Jaghire; for his Lordſhip had before, on his way up, obtained the Nabob's Sunnund in duplicate, one of them to be forwarded to you if we judged it proper, which is accordingly tranſmitted in the packet, with an atteſted copy of the tranſlation; we alſo ſend you like copies of the ſeveral papers above-mentioned, to which we beg leave to refer you, and to offer you at the ſame time our hearty congratulations on this event of the return of peace; which we hoped and have now all reaſon to expect, from our eſtabliſhed influence and power, will remain in future uninterrupted; the ſame was proclaimed here in proper form on the 12th, and ordered to be alſo publiſhed at the ſubordinates.

33. At the conſultation of the 9th of June, Mr. Sykes entered a minute, informing the board that the ſelect Committee had ordered him to proceed to Moorſhedabad, on affairs of importance, which would be communicated to them when the proceedings were drawn up, and that he ſhould ſet out accordingly without loſs of time; Meſſrs. Leycester and Gray diſſented upon this occaſion, not being able to judge of the object of Mr. Sykes's commiſſion, or the neceſſity of his appointment, and as Mr. Middleton, a member of the board, was already ſtationed reſident at the Durbar, to tranſact whatever points of buſineſs might occur with the country government, had acted in that capacity to the intire ſatisfaction of the council, and could not be ſuperſeded without a reflection on his ability to conduct ſuch buſineſs. The proceedings were afterwards laid before the board, when thoſe gentlemen confirmed their diſſent, eſteeming Mr. Middleton ſtill the proper perſon to tranſact the buſineſs entruſted to Mr. Sykes; and upon Mr. Middleton's receiving information from the ſelect Committee of this appointment, he addreſſed the board, as appears in conſultation the 18th of the ſame month, ſetting forth, how much it muſt leſſen the weight and influence which it was abſolutely neceſſary he ſhould maintain in his ſtation, and that he could not with any credit to himſelf remain in it longer, more eſpecially as Lord Clive told him, on his way, that it was intended to remove him ſhortly, and place Mr. Sykes in his room; and ſoliciting in conſequence the chiefſhip of Patna which became vacant a few days before, by the ſudden death of Mr. Billers; to this he was accordingly appointed, and ordered by the majority to proceed immediately, delivering over to the chief at Coſſimbuzar, ſuch buſineſs as he has been entruſted with from the board. Mr. Sumner being the only member of the Committee then preſent, minuted at the ſame time a declaration on their part, that no reflection whatſoever on Mr. Middleton, nor derogation from his neceſſary weight and influence as public reſident, was intended by them, and produced the copy of the letter wrote him on the occaſion, ſetting forth the impropriety of charging any other than a member of the Committee with the management of buſineſs which had not been diſcloſed

to the council, as an argument for his ſatisfaction. Mr. Sykes having proceeded conformably to his deputation, returned to the preſidency with Lord Clive.

34. Mr. Verelſt upon being called to Calcutta, to take his ſeat in the Committee, to reſign the chiefſhip of Chittagong factory; in which Mr. Playdell ſucceeded him; and upon the reſignation of Mr. Johnſtone, he was appointed by the Committee to the charge of ſupervifor of the Burdwan revenues.

35. At the conſultation of the 22d of July, a motion was made by Mr. Burdett for filling up the vacancies in council, from Mr. Johnſtone's late reſignation, and the death of Mr. Billers, agreeably to your laſt appointment and orders; upon which Mr. Sumner informed him, that the Committee had already taken the ſubject of thoſe orders under their conſideration, and ſhould determine on them at their firſt meeting, upon the return of the abſent members to the preſidency, and therefore deſired that the filling up the vacancies might till then be poſtponed. The majority of the board entering their opinions, that the matter ſhould not be deferred, and propoſing therefore to call to the board the two next Gentlemen on the liſt, Mr. Sumner diſſented thereto in his own and the name of the Committee, reſerving to them a reviſal of the meaſure. But the majority confirming their opinions, Meſſrs. Francis Charlton and Thomas French were in conſequence ordered from Dacca, to take their ſeats.

36 Upon the aſſembling again of the Committee, Mr. Sumner related to them accordingly what had paſſed at the board, and they recorded their ſentiments thereon; offering at the ſame time their reaſons for not enlarging the number of the council; which latter were, firſt, that the collection of the Burdwan revenues ſhould no longer be managed by a chief and council, but as propoſed in a repreſentation to them from Mr. Verelſt, at the ſame time communicated to the board, by a junior ſervant, reſiding always on the ſpot, and a ſupervifor, who, if a member of the board, might ſtill retain his ſeat as ſuch, his charge would only require an occaſional attendance. Secondly, with reſpect to the Midnapore province, that it was not of ſufficient conſequence to require the direction of a member of the council, and might be as well conducted by a junior ſervant. And, thirdly, their having under their conſideration the recalling the factory at Benaras, in conſequence of the treaty concluded with Sujah Dowlah. Upon which different circumſtances, they recommended to the board to reconſider the appointments of Meſſrs. Charlton and French. We beg leave to refer you to the proceedings of the Committee for thoſe ſentiments, and a particular explanation of their reaſons for the propoſed charges reſpecting Burdwan and Midnapore, as alſo the opinions of the ſeveral members of the board thereon; and ſhall here only add, that the majority being of opinion the firſt alteration ſhould take place, and the members of the board joining with the Committee as to the latter, the appointments of the new members were in conſequence ſet aſide, and orders given to the factory at Dacca accordingly. Mr. Leyceſter, however, entered a minute, confirming the opinion againſt a reduction in the number of the council, which we further refer you to.

37. We received a letter from Lord Clive, during his abſence at Benaras, repreſenting his opinion of your title to a moiety of the money obtained there by our army, in conſequence of the deed of gift from the King to the Company, of ſuch proportion of all plunder, &c. which ſhould be taken in India by his forces on land, and their orders, putting their own military on the ſame footing, and reſerving to them the other moiety. He, at the ſame time, pointed out, as an argument, the ſtipulation in favour of the Company, of one-half of what ſhould be taken at Manilla, eſteeming it a ſimilar caſe with the one in queſtion, and referred the ſubject to the conſideration of the board.

38. It appearing, on reference to the regiſters of council before his Lordſhip's arrival, that the board conſidered the ſaid money as a voluntary gift from the merchants, rather than a ranſom for the town obtained by military force, and that for the reaſons aſſigned they thought proper to conſent to the army's receiving it, without reſerving any claim to the Company; the other members did not think, this being the caſe, that a demand on them for a ſhare of the money could now, with any propriety, be made; and they communicated theſe their ſentiments accordingly, in anſwer to his Lordſhip, tranſmitting, for his particular information, extracts of thoſe regiſters; viz.

Of the letters to the commanding officers of the 6th of November, and 6th of December laſt. And,

Of the conſultation of the 3d of January, upon an application received from the officers and men of the 96th regiment, and his Majeſty's Marines.

To which we beg leave to refer you upon the occaſion.

39. Upon his Lordſhip's return to the preſidency, he informed the board, that, while he was with the army, he had formed it upon the eſtabliſhment and plan laid down in your commands of the firſt of June 1765; and propoſed, for the better regulating their pay in future, and the prevention of any abuſes, that there ſhould be ſeparate paymaſters, with deputies, and a commiſſary to each brigade.

The board agreed with him entirely in the propriety of theſe appointments, and the paymaſters were accordingly nominated, and the other officers remaining to be fixed at a future meeting.

40. The

40. The ſelect Committee having taken under conſideration your orders, touching the inland trade in the articles of ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, they communicated to the board in their next proceedings a ſet of regulations formed thereupon, as the ground-work of a plan for carrying it on in future; we beg leave to refer you to the proceedings themſelves for your particular information of this plan, and have here to inform you, that Meſſrs. Sumner, Verelſt, Leyceſter, and Gray, were in conſequence conſtituted the Committee for receiving charge thereof, and managing it on behalf of the body of proprietors, with authority to correſpond with the ſubordinate factories, and to purſue all ſuch meaſures as might, conformably thereto, appear to them eligible and proper; and that the neceſſary advice and orders were given accordingly to the ſubordinates, and publication made, prohibiting all perſons depending on the country's government from entering into any new engagements in thoſe articles, unleſs as contractors with the Committee, for the purchaſe or ſale of them. We have alſo to note to you, that Meſſrs. Leyceſter and Gray diſſented to the authority the ſelect Committee had taken upon themſelves on this occaſion, eſteeming it in no wiſe delegated to them by the terms and intention of their appointment; and that the ſubject ſhould have been conſidered and determined on in council.

41. The Committee of trade having entered upon the proſecution of the plan, we have received from them a repreſentation for having the ſociety ſecured againſt any innovations in the courſe of their preſent engagements, and ſoliciting from us ſuch a deed as we may think ſufficient to inſure to them the excluſive right to the trade till theſe engagements are concluded, the ſame to be renewed every ſeaſon, ſo long as it ſhall be agreeable to you that this plan ſhould ſubſiſt; we could not but agree with them entirely in the propriety of this meaſure, and have given directions for drawing accordingly ſuch a writing as may be thought ſufficient to ſecure the Proprietors the right in queſtion, and we now requeſt your permiſſion to renew the ſame for the future concerns, if the plan meets with your approbation.

42. Commodore Tinker having received from the late Nabob, Meer Jaffier, a grant of 12,50,000 rupees, as a donation to himſelf and the ſquadron under his command, for their ſervices in the war againſt Meer Coſſim, he preſented to the board, on his departure, a tranſlation of the ſame; and requeſted their aſſiſtance in procuring regular payments, conformably to the terms; to which the board replied, expreſſing their ſatisfaction at the Nabob's having thought proper to conſider the ſervices of the ſquadron, and aſſuring Mr. Tinker, that, ſo far as might appear to them in his power, conſiſtently with the performance of the engagements of his treaty, the Commodore might depend on their compliance with his application. Two of the periods of payment having expired, and no part been yet received, the agents have now addreſſed us, incloſing the tranſlation of a letter from the preſent Nabob, with a confirmation of his father's grant, and ſoliciting our interpoſition for procuring them the amount due; repreſenting, with a view of adding weight to their application, that many of the officers and men of the ſquadron having contracted debts during their abode in Calcutta, their drafts on the donation had, upon the ſtrength of the board's promiſe, been accepted in diſcharge thereof, by merchants of the place, whoſe private fortunes have already ſuffered, and muſt ſuffer ſtill more by any further delay of payment.

43. The repreſentation having been conſidered and debated on, the majority of the board were of opinion, that, in conſequence of our acquiſition of the Duanney of theſe provinces, and the agreement thereupon made with the Nabob, by which, after the ſtipulations for the King and his Excellency, the remaining part of the revenues devolves to the Company, they could not of themſelves determine upon the ſubject, but that it ſhould be referred to your deciſion; and the circumſtances being accordingly thus ſtated to you, we wait your anſwer and orders thereon.

44. The ſhips Lord Anſon and Prince of Wales having been reported clear of their conſignment on the 29th of April and 24th of June, they were immediately diſmiſſed your ſervice, and their journals and other books of their voyage required, conformably to your orders, to be returned to you; the ſame are tranſmitted you by this opportunity; and we have diſcharged the balances of freight remaining to be paid the owners in India, as per their reſpective accounts received in the Packets: we have alſo reimburſed the commanders for ſundry neceſſaries provided in the courſe of their paſſages, for the uſe of the recruits whom they brought out; viz. to the former Crs. 1,989 : 5 : 7, and to the latter Crs. 9,044 : 6 : 0, both accounts being properly vouched and certified.

45. The Solebay, one of the two ſhips taken up laſt year for furniſhing your preſidency of Fort Marlbro' with ſlaves from Madagaſcar, having concluded her voyage, arrived with us on the 22d ult. and we received by her a packet from the preſident and council, under a general addreſs to either of the three ſettlements, incloſing ſeveral papers reſpecting her, in conſequence of a demand on the commander upon account of the owners, for the ſum of 2500l. advanced to them in England, which he refuſed payment of. Theſe papers they therefore tranſmitted, pointing out particularly to the obſervation of thoſe who might receive them, that your inſtructions to them were very explicit, although the Charter-party appeared rather defective in the wording; that, if it appeared eligible, an attempt might be made to recover the money by courſe of law. We peruſed and examined the different papers, but not chuſing to proceed upon our own judgment upon a caſe of this nature, we referred

referred them to the attentive conſideration of an attorney in the Mayor's Court, Mr. Richard Whittal, who, we underſtood, was moſt capable and verſed in his profeſſion, requiring his ſentiments at full, whether or not there was ſufficient ground on which to found a proſecution here on the occaſion; and having received an anſwer from him, ſtating his opinion in the affirmative, we have directed him to repeat the demand in due form, and, upon a refuſal ſtill of payment, to commence an action againſt the owners accordingly.

46. We ſend you further the general books of the preſidency, with their ſubſidiaries to April 1764, and hope, from the ſub-accountant's report, to forward to you the ſubſequent ſet in the courſe of this ſeaſon, having, upon his application ſome time ago, wrote in very urgent terms on this ſubject to the ſubordinates. The entire loſs of their books and accounts, at leaſt ſome of them, in the late troubles, have unavoidably occaſioned great delay in bringing them up.

47. We are to adviſe you of the diceaſe of Capt. Alexander Scott, our maſter attendant, on the 12th ult. and of Capt. Page Keble's ſucceſſion to the charge of that office, agreeably to your nomination. On this occaſion we received a petition from the deputy, Mr. Richard Deane, repreſenting his long ſervices to the Company, in the different gradations of the marine, which he hoped had fully qualified him for the appointment, and ſoliciting it. Accordingly, he was adviſed, in anſwer, that Captain Keble had obtained it in purſuance of your orders; with an aſſurance however, that we had a juſt ſenſe of his ſervices, and ſhould take care to make proper mention of him to you, and we beg leave therefore to recommend him to your notice.

48. Mr. Robert Hunter, whom you have this ſeaſon been pleaſed to appoint a factor on the Fort Marlbro' eſtabliſhment, having ſome months before come over to this preſidency had, on account of his particular merit and abilities in the profeſſion, been entertained as one of our principal ſurgeons; on being therefore adviſed of your appointment, he delivered in a letter to us, repreſenting, that it was obtained entirely without his knowledge and intention, while he was detained on the French iſlands, and ſix years after his firſt application; and having then quitted the place, with leave from the preſident and council, and upon his admiſſion into the ſervice here, had from a dependance upon continuing in it, entered into connections and concerns with others, whoſe intereſt muſt ſuffer, and ruin attend his own by a ſpeedy removal: he for theſe reaſons, ſolicited our permiſſion to relinquiſh that appointment, and be continued in his ſtation here; expreſſing at the ſame time, his juſt ſenſe of the favour and honour thereby conferred on him, for which he returned you his grateful thanks, and his hope, that in conſideration of his misfortunes and long ſervices, you would not be diſpleaſed with his proceeding; from this repreſentation, and the character before given of him, we could not but very readily acquieſce in his deſire, and, as we are extremely ſolicitous of his continuance with us, we hope for, and earneſtly entreat, his confirmation here accordingly.

49. We further beg leave to recommend to you, for an appointment on your liſt of civil ſervants, Mr. Sutton Banks, a gentleman who has for a long while reſided in the place as a private merchant, much eſteemed, and is entirely deſerving the favour we ſolicit for him.

50. Captain George Burghall, of the corps of engineers, having been accuſed by Captain Martin, his ſuperior officer, of diſobedience of orders, he in conſequence, of the opinion of a court of enquiry, underwent a trial by a court martial, appointed and approved by Major Munro, before his departure; at which having been found guilty of the charge, he was caſhiered the Company's ſervice by the ſentence of the court, and he proceeds home, with his family: By this opportunity Major Munro carried with him the proceedings of the court martial.

51. You will find the reaſons of the ſelect Committee, in which the board acquieſced, for the purchaſe of the Admiral Stevens on the occaſion of this diſpatch, and not employing the Lapwing, which ſtill remained upon our hands, recorded on the Committee proceedings of the 21ſt June, and 4th of July; and the ſeaſon now opening, we ſhall forthwith determine on ſome method of employing the latter, or otherwiſe diſpoſe of her as may appear moſt eligible. The board, previous to the arrival of the Kent, had had ſome intentions of ſending her to Fort St. George, to return to you with early advices from thence and this preſidency.

52. Upon a report from the maſter attendant, of the condition and value of the Admiral Stevens, we agreed to pay for her, at the price demanded by the owners of 59,000 Arcot rupees; and Captain Griffin, who we adviſed you had quitted the Lapwing to proceed to Fort St. George, in his private concerns, having returned to the place, we gave him the command of her, appointing, upon proper recommendations, Meſſrs. James Angus, James Lenox, Edward Wilton, and Robert Fairfull, her Officers; we at the ſame time wrote to Coſſimbuzar, and Dacca, to ſend us down from each factory for her 100 bales of their fineſt piece of goods, and we have the ſatisfaction to find ſhe carries you upon the whole, conſidering her ſize, a valuable charge, the amount being as per invoice C. Rs. 794,100.

53. With a view to increaſe it as much as poſſible, we determined, upon an application from the Captain and Officers on the ſubject of their privilege, to make them a tender, in lieu of any allowance in her tonnage, of the ſum of 10,000 Arcot rupees, and the ſame having been accepted, we required from them an acknowledgement of it, with an obligation not to ſhip, in conſequence thereof, any merchandize as adventures.

54. We

54. We have alſo given in charge to Captain Griffin 1500 ounces of foreign ſilver, for the uſe of the ſhip, in caſe ſhe ſhould be under a neceſſity of touching at any place, and advanced him the ſum of A. Rs. 3918 : 4, on account of four months impreſs of himſelf, officers, and Europeans, his table allowance for the voyage, and uſual batta on this account, from his appointment to this time.

55. Since writing the foregoing, we have received advice from the gentlemen at Fort St. George of the arrival at that place of the Grenville and Fox, on the 6th and 7th inſtant, the former having touched at St. Jago and Falſo bay, from whence ſhe ſailed the 21ſt of July, and loſt there by deſertion thirteen of her recruits, beſides twelve buried on her paſſage; but we are ſorry to learn at the ſame time the long detention which the Speke, Pacifick, and Pontborne met with at Spithead from contrary winds; we hope, however, they took the opportunity of ſailing about the ſame time as the Fox, and that we ſhall ſoon have ſome accounts of them in theſe parts; we now find, by your advices to that preſidency of the 4th January, that the Falmouth is not to return to you, but only taken up for the run to India, to aſſiſt in bringing on our recruits: Thoſe gentlemen expected to give the Earl of Middleſex her diſpatches about the end of this month, and at their requeſt we tranſmit you a copy of the invoice of proviſions put on board her here for victualling the priſoners from the French iſlands, that the commanders may account with you for the ſame. We alſo forward a packet received from them to your addreſs, with one from the gentlemen at Fort Malbro'. The Buckingham having concluded her deſtination to that place, we underſtand, is likewiſe arrived at Fort St. George.

56. The mint maſter having laid before the ſelect committee a repreſentation, ſetting forth the inconveniencies reſulting to the company, and the public, from the ſtop put to the iſſueing of new ſiccas, and the difficulties and dangers conſequent on any attempt to a general recoinage, or abolition of the annual fall of the batta on ſicca rupees, the ſame has been referred to us, and is at preſent under our conſideration; he has now preſented an addreſs to the board, with ſeparate ſtatements of the mint for a year before and after he took charge of it, and the aſſay book; from the latter time, to which he referred us for an explanation of the advantages ariſing from the regulations propoſed by him in the month of January; and, at his requeſt, we tranſmit you in the packet copies of thoſe different addreſſes, as alſo the aſſay book, and copies of the ſtatements accompanying the laſt to the board, that by referring them to and conſulting the tower office, you may be perfectly ſatisfied of the nature of the improvements he has made, and how far his appointment to the direction of the mint has anſwered expectation.

57. The members of the ſelect Committee have entered a minute in reply to Mr. Leyceſter's before mentioned, confirming his diſſent to the diminution of the council, Meſſrs. Leyceſter and Gray have alſo on their parts delivered in other minutes, upon the ſentiments recorded by the Committee on their conduct, and Mr. Burdett's, in not conforming to Mr. Sumner's deſire upon the ſame ſubject; Mr. Leyceſter, a further one, touching the powers of the Committee, to which laſt they have informed him they ſhall reply to you in their own department, and Mr. Gray, another in conſequence of imputations laid to his charge before Lord Clive, which he has deſired may be enquired into before the board, and his Lordſhip has acquainted him, ſhall be communicated to them accordingly. — You will find all theſe recorded in the proceedings of the 25th Inſt. and we beg to refer them with the reſt to your peruſal and conſideration.

58. We have alſo received an anſwer from Mr Burdett to Lord Clive's minute upon his reſignation, and the letter referred to in it from Raja Dulubram, confirming his firſt reaſon aſſigned for quitting the ſervice at the time he did, and declining to anſwer to the demand from Roy Dulub, till he ſhould be firſt informed what puniſhment would be inflicted on him, if he ſhould prove him guilty of a falſhood; upon which, his Lordſhip has minuted, That he has not leiſure at preſent to reply thereto, but will do it fully by the next ſhip.

59. Upon the peruſal of a draft of the letter, Lord Clive remarked on the circumſtances mentioned in Mr. Middleton's addreſs to the board, quoted in the 23d paragraph, That he did not tell him as there related, "It was the intention of the Committee to remove him "ſhortly, and place Mr. Sykes in his ſtead;" but only, "That this gentleman was ſoon to "proceed to the city on particular buſineſs from them."

60. The ſelect Committee have laid before us a copy of their proceedings, containing their concluſion of the plan for carrying on the inland trade, with reſpect to the Company and the claſſes of proprietors; and the ſame has been delivered over to the Committee for managing the trade, with inſtructions to proceed conformably thereto.

61. General Carnac having declined receiving a preſent from the King, as he had not the conſent of the governor and council, his Majeſty has written a letter to the board, repreſenting, that the General has always refuſed to accept any reward for his great ſervices; that to permit him to remain unrewarded, is injurious to his royal dignity, and that it is therefore his Majeſty's pleaſure, that we grant General Carnac permiſſion to receive from his Royal bounty the ſum of two lacks of rupees.

62. You are ſo well acquainted with the merits and moderation of this gentleman, that we need not add our ſentiments on the ſubject: The great attention and reſpect he has always paid the King, from the time of his Majeſty's misfortunes, when he ſurrendered himſelf at

Patna, to his preſent ſtate of peace and affluence, together with the attachment ſhewn to him on many occaſions in the field, demand ſome return of gratitude; and we truſt you will rejoice that an opportunity ſhould at laſt offer, of placing General Carnac in a ſtate of independence, at the eve of a long and faithful ſervice.

63. There being ſome doubts, whether the power of permiſſion, upon ſuch occaſions is intended to be lodged with the governor and council, we have not abſolutely granted it, but refer it to you; and ſhould be glad of your inſtructions for our guidance in future. We beg leave only to obſerve, that ſuch power would perhaps be a means of keeping the military in proper ſubjection to the civil authority in this ſettlement.

64. Mr. Peter Downes having, ſome time ago, requeſted permiſſion to quit his offices, in order to prepare for his return to Europe, has now reſigned his ſervice, and proceeds by this ſhip.

65. The Mayor's court have preſented to us a liſt of ſeveral law books wanted for the uſe of the court, which they requeſt may be ſent them by the firſt opportunity, and the ſame is tranſmitted you in the packet.

66. We have only further to add, that the neceſſary papers reſpecting this ſhip are incloſed; and wiſhing her ſafe and ſpeedy arrival with you, we have the honour to remain, with reſpect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your moſt faithful

And obedient humble ſervants,

Fort William,
the 30th Sept. 1765.

CLIVE.
WM. B. SUMNER.
H. VERELST.
CHARLES SYKES.
R. LEYCESTER.
GEORGE GRAY.

Poſtſcript.

1. Since concluding this addreſs, it has occurred to us, that we are much in want of ſeveral printed ſets of the Act of Parliament for the puniſhing of mutiny and deſertion among your troops here, with which we requeſt you will furniſh us by the firſt opportunity.

2. At the conſultation of this day for the diſpatch of the ſhip, Mr. Leyceſter entered a further minute reſpecting the preſent which he received from the Nabob when in a deputation to him. Mr. Gray recorded one likewiſe, on the ſame ſubject as that mentioned in the 57th paragraph, upon certain imputations laid againſt his charge, which he requeſted might be enquired into; to both which we beg, as before, to refer you. And we remain, with reſpect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your moſt faithful

And obedient humble Servants,

Fort William,
the 30th Sept. 1765.

CLIVE.
WM. B. SUMNER.
JOHN CARNAC.
H. VERELST.
CHARLES SYKES.
R. LEYCESTER.
GEORGE GRAY.

No. 73.

Calcutta, 30th September, 1765.

Gentlemen,

BY the letter from the ſelect Committee, and copy of their proceedings, which are tranſmitted to you by this conveyance, you will be enabled to form a general idea of the ſtate of this ſettlement on the arrival of the ſhip Kent, together with the meaſures we thought neceſſary to purſue, in order to ſettle the Company's affairs in theſe provinces upon an advantageous and permanent foundation. You will permit me, however, to lay before you my own ſentiments in particular, concerning theſe meaſures, and to communicate alſo, by this earlieſt opportunity, ſuch others, as I wiſh ſhould be adopted before I quit the government, and which I hope will not only be approved of, but likewiſe ſo fully confirmed and eſtabliſhed by the Court of Directors, that the abuſes which may otherwiſe be revived by the ambition and avarice of ſome future governors or councils may be effectually prevented.

Upon my arrival, I am ſorry to ſay, I found your affairs in a condition ſo nearly deſperate as would have alarmed any ſet of men, whoſe ſenſe of honour and duty to their employers had not been eſtranged by the too eager purſuit of their own immediate advantage; the ſudden, and, among many, the unwarrantable acquiſition of riches, had introduced luxury in every ſhape, and in its moſt pernicious exceſs. Theſe two enormous evils went hand in hand together through the whole preſidency, infecting almoſt every member of each department; every inferior ſeemed to have graſped at wealth, that he might be enabled to aſſume that ſpirit of profuſion, which was now the only diſtinction between him and his ſuperior. Thus all diſtinction ceaſed, and every rank became, in a manner, upon an equality; nor was this the end of the miſchief, for a conteſt of ſuch a nature among our ſervants neceſſarily deſtroyed all proportion between their wants and the honeſt means of ſatisfying them. In a country where money is plenty, where fear is the principle of government, and where your arms are ever victorious; in ſuch a country, I ſay, it is no wonder that corruption ſhould find its way to a ſpot ſo well prepared to receive it. It is no wonder that the luſt of riches ſhould readily embrace the proffered means of its gratification, or that the inſtruments of your power ſhould avail themſelves of their authority, and proceed even to extortion, in thoſe caſes where ſimple corruption could not keep pace with their rapacity. Examples of this ſort, ſet by ſuperiors, could not fail of being followed, in a proportionable degree, by inferiors; the evil was contagious, and ſpread among the civil and military, down to the writer, the enſign, and the free merchant.

3. The large ſum of money acquired by donation, beſides the means I have already mentioned, were ſo publicly known and vindicated, that every one thought he had a right to enrich himſelf, at all events, with as much expedition as poſſible; the monopoly of ſalt, beetle, tobacco, &c. was another fund of immenſe profits to the Company's ſervants, and likewiſe to ſuch others as they permitted to enjoy a ſhare, while not a rupee of advantage accrued to the government, and very little to the Company from that trade. Before I had diſcovered theſe various ſources of wealth, I was under great aſtoniſhment to find individuals ſo ſuddenly enriched, that there was ſcarce a gentleman in the ſettlement who had not fixed upon a very ſhort period for his return to England with affluence. From hence aroſe that forward ſpirit of independency, which in a manner ſet all your orders at defiance, and dictated a total contempt of them, as often as obedience was found incompatible with private intereſt. At the time of my arrival, I ſaw nothing that bore the form or appearance of government: The authority and pre-eminence of the governor, were levelled with thoſe counſellors; every counſellor was as much a governor as he who bore the name, and diſtinction of rank, as I have already obſerved, was no longer to be found in the whole ſettlement. Notwithſtanding a ſpecial order from the Court of Directors, founded on very wiſe and very evident reaſons, that all correſpondence with the country powers ſhould be carried on ſolely in the governor's name, I found that our whole correſpondence with the Great Mogul, the Subahs, Nabobs, and Rajahs, had been of late carried on by and in the name of the whole board, and that every ſervant and free merchant correſponded with whom they pleaſed.

4. Your orders for the execution of the covenants were poſitive, and expreſsly mentioned to be the reſolution of a general court of proprietors: Your ſervants at Bengal, however, determined to reject them; and had not the Select Committee reſolved that the example ſhould be firſt ſet by the council, or a ſuſpenſion from your ſervice take place, it is certain they would have remained unexecuted to this hour. You will not, I imagine, be much ſurpriſed at this breach of duty, if you look over the general letters, where you cannot avoid ſeeing how many are annually committed, and how faſt every thing was tending to a contempt of your authority. From a ſhort ſurvey of the late tranſactions, I was convinced that no other remedy was left, than an immediate and vigorous exertion of the powers with which the Committee were inveſted. Happy, in my opinion, was it for the Company, that ſuch

powers were granted; for that the ſettlement, ſo conducted, could have ſubſiſted another twelvemonth, appears to me an impoſſibility. A great part of the revenues of the country, amounting to near four millions ſterling per annum, would have been divivded among your ſervants, and the acquiſition of fortunes being ſo ſudden, a few months muſt have brought writers into council, ſeniority muſt have been admitted as a juſt claim to a ſeat at the board, without the qualification of age or experience, becauſe the the rapidity of ſucceſſion denied the attainment of either.

5. Nor were theſe exceſſes confined to your civil ſervants alone, the military departments alſo had caught the infection, and riches, the bane of diſcipline, were daily promoting the ruin of our army. The too little inequality of rank rendered the advantages of captains, lieutenants, and enſigns, ſo nearly upon a par, and ſo large, that an independant fortune was no diſtant proſpect, even to a ſubaltern. If a too quick ſucceſſion among thoſe from whom you expect the ſtudy of commerce and policy is detrimental to your civil concerns, how effectually deſtructive, muſt that evil prove to your military operations? The moſt experienced European Officer, when he has entered into the Eaſt India ſervice, although he may be able in many points to ſuggeſt improvement to others, will nevertheleſs find that ſomething new remains for himſelf to learn peculiar to this ſervice, which cannot be attained in a day—judge then how the caſe muſt ſtand with youths, who are either juſt ſent out from the academy, or, which more frequently happens, who have no education at all; for to ſuch have we often been reduced to the neceſſity of granting commiſſions. How much muſt the expectations of your army be raiſed, when they are ſuffered, without controul to take poſſeſſion, for themſelves, of the whole booty, donation money, and plunder, on the capture of a city? This I can aſſure you happened at Benares; and what is more ſurprizing, the then governor and council, ſo far from laying in a claim to the moiety, which ought to have been reſerved for the Company, agreeable to thoſe poſitive orders from the Court of Directors a few years ago, when they were pleaſed to put their forces upon the ſame footing with thoſe of his Majeſty, gave up the whole to the captors——You have heard of the general mutiny that happened among your Seapoys a little before my arrival——What would have been your conſternation, had you alſo heard of an unanimous deſertion of your European Soldiery. Theſe were very ſerious events indeed, and had it not been for one well-timed vigorous act of Major Munro, and the unwearied zeal and military abilities of General Carnac, who totally ſuppreſſed the ſpirit of mutiny among the ſoldiers, your poſſeſſions in India might at this time have been deſtitute of a man to ſupport them, and even the privilege of commerce irrecoverably cruſhed: Common juſtice to the principles and conduct of General Carnac, oblige me further to add, that I found him the only officer of rank who had reſiſted the temptations to which by his ſtation he was conſtantly ſubject, of acquiring an immence fortune; and I queſtion much whether he is not the only man who has of late years been honoured with the command of your forces, without acquiring a very large independency. The letter from the Great Mogul to the governor and council, requeſting the permiſſion for him to accept a preſent of two Laaks, which his majeſty is deſirous of beſtowing on him as a reward for his diſintereſted ſervices, will corroborate what I have ſaid in his favour; and as this affair, agreeable to the tenor of the covenants, is referred to the Court of Directors, I make no doubt they will readily embrace the opportunity of ſhewing their regard to ſuch diſtinguiſhed merit, by conſenting to his acceptance of his Majeſty's bounty.

6. If the picture I have drawn be a faithful likeneſs of the preſidency, (and I call upon the moſt guilty, for guilty there are, to ſhew that I have aggravated a feature) to what a deplorable condition muſt your affairs ſoon have been reduced? Every ſtate (and ſuch now is your government in India) muſt be near its period, when the rage of luxury and corruption has ſeized upon its leaders and inhabitants. Can trade be encouraged for public benefit, where the management unfortunately devolves upon thoſe who make private intereſt their rule of action? And farther, has ſudden affluence ever failed, from the infancy of military diſcipline to the preſent perfection of it, to corrupt the principle and deſtroy the ſpirit of an army? Independency of fortune is always averſe to thoſe duties of ſubordination, which are inſeparable from the life of a ſoldier; and in this country, if the acquiſition be ſudden, a relaxation of diſcipline is more immediately the conſequence. I would not be thought by theſe obſervations to exclude riches from the military: Honour alone is ſcarcely a ſufficient reward for the toilſome ſervice of the field. But the acquiſition of wealth ought to be ſo gradual, as to admit not a proſpect of completing it, till ſucceſſion, by merit, to the rank of a field officer ſhould have lain a good foundation for the claim. Such is the idea I entertained of this matter, when I delivered my ſentiments to the Court of Directors, in my letter of the 27th April 1764; and I have acted in conformity thereto, by regimenting the troops in the manner I then propoſed. I need not repeat the obſervations I troubled you with in that letter. It is ſufficient to remark here, that the good effects of the plan are already viſible, that ſubordination is reſtored, abuſes corrected, and your expences, of courſe already greatly diminiſhed.

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7. The war which, to my great concern, I found extended above 700 Miles from the preſidency, is now happily concluded, and a peace eſtabliſhed upon terms which promiſe laſting tranquillity to theſe provinces. This event has, I find, diſappointed the expectations of many, who thought of nothing but a march with the king to Delhi. My reſolution however, was, and my hopes will always be, to confine our aſſiſtance, our conqueſt, and our poſſeſſions, to Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa: To go farther is, in my opinion, a ſcheme ſo extravagantly ambitious and abſurd, that no governor and council in their ſenſes can ever adopt it, unleſs the whole ſyſtem of the Company's intereſt be firſt entirely new modelled.

8. I forbear troubling you with a detail of the negociations of General Carnac and me, with the country powers, and the particulars of the treaty of peace with the Vizier of the Empire, as they will be ſpoken of at large in the letter from the Select Committee, and appear likewiſe upon the face of our proceedings. I will however juſt remark, that our reſtoring to Shujah Dowla the whole of his Dominions, proceeds more from the policy of not extending the Company's territorial poſſeſſions, than the generous principle of attaching him for ever to our intereſt by gratitude, though this has been the apparent, and is by many thought to be the real motive. Had we ambitiouſly attempted to retain the conquered country, experience would ſoon have proved the abſurdity and impracticability of ſuch a plan. The eſtabliſhment of your army muſt have been added to your liſt, and more chiefſhips appointed; the acts of oppreſſion, and innumerable abuſes, which would have been committed, and which could neither have been prevented nor remedied, at ſo great a diſtance from the preſidency, muſt infallibly have laid the foundation of another war, deſtructive and unſucceſsful; our old privileges and poſſeſſions would have been endangered by every ſupply we might have been tempted to afford in ſupport of the new; and the natives muſt have finally triumphed in our inability to ſuſtain the weight of our own ambition.

9. To return to the point from which this digreſſion has led me, I muſt carry you back to the deſcription above given of the ſituation in which I found your affairs on my arrival. Two paths were evidenly open to me: the one ſmooth, and ſtrewed with abundance of rich advantages that might eaſily be picked up; the other untrodden, and every ſtep oppoſed with obſtacles. I might have taken charge of the government upon the ſame footing on which I found it; that is, I might have enjoyed the name of governor, and have ſuffered the honour, importance, and dignity of the poſt, to continue in their ſtate of annihilation; I might have contented myſelf, as others had before me, with being a cypher, or, what is little better, the firſt among ſixteen equals; and I might have allowed this paſſive conduct to be attended with the uſual Douceur of ſharing largely with the reſt of the gentlemen in all Donations, Perquiſites, &c. ariſing from the abſolute government and diſpoſal of all places in the revenues of this opulent kingdom; by which means I might ſoon have acquired an immenſe addition to my fortune, notwithſtanding the obligations in the new covenants; for the man who can ſo eaſily get over the bar of conſcience as to receive preſents after the execution of them, will not ſcruple to make uſe of any evaſions that may protect him from the conſequence. The ſettlement in general would thus have been my friends, and only the natives of the country my enemies. If you can conceive a governor in ſuch a ſituation, it is impoſſible to form a wrong judgment of the inferior ſervants, or of the Company's affairs, at ſuch a preſidency. An honourable alternative however lay before me: I had the power within my own breaſt to fulfil the duty of my ſtation, by remaining incorruptable in the midſt of numberleſs temptations artfully thrown in my way; by expoſing my character to every attack which malice or reſentment are ſo apt to invent, againſt any man who attempts reformation; and by encountering, of courſe, the odium of the ſettlement. I heſitated not a moment which choice to make; I took upon my ſhoulders a burden which required reſolution, perſeverance, and conſtitution, to ſupport. Having choſe my part, I was determined to exert myſelf in the attempt, happy in the reflection that the honour of the nation, and the very being of the Company, would be maintained by the ſucceſs; and conſcious, that if I failed, my integrity and good intentions, at leaſt, muſt remain unimpeached. The other members of the Committe joined with me in opinion, that, in order to proceed upon buſineſs, it was abſolutely neceſſary for us to aſſume the powers wherewith we were inveſted.—We ſaw plainly, that moſt of the gentlemen in council had been too deeply concerned themſelves, in the meaſures which required amendment, for us to expect any aſſiſtance from them; on the contrary, we were certain of finding oppoſition to every plan of Innovation, and an unanimous attempt to defeat the intentions of the proprietors who ſolicited my acceptance of the government. The Committee therefore immediately met, and I had the happineſs to find myſelf ſupported by gentlemen whom no temptations could ſeduce, no inconveniences or threats of malice deter. Our proceedings will convince you, that we have dared to act with firmneſs and integrity, and will at the ſame time demonſtrate, that temper, unanimity, and diſpatch muſt ever mark the proceedings of men unbiaſſed by private intereſt.

10. The gentlemen in council of late years, at Bengal, ſeem to have been actuated, in every conſultation, by a very obſtinate and miſchievous ſpirit. The office of governor has been in a manner hunted down, ſtripped of its dignity, and then divided into ſixteen ſhares. Whether ambi-

ambition, obſtinacy, pride or ſelf-intereſt is uſually the motive to ſuch a purſuit, I will not take upon me to determine; but am ſure it can never ariſe from a juſt idea of government, or a true ſenſe of the Company's intereſt. In my opinion, it is the duty of the council to make the power of the preſident appear as extenſive as poſſible in the eyes of the people; that all correſpondence with the country princes, ſhould be carried on through him alone, ſome particular caſes excepted; that the council ſhould, upon all occaſions, be unanimous in ſupporting, not in extenuating, the dignity of his ſtation; and that he ought to be conſidered among the natives as the ſole manager and conductor of political affairs. This ſhould be the outward appearance of adminiſtration, though in reality the council muſt be allowed a freedom of judgment; and when they perceive in the governor a tendency to abſolute or unjuſtifiable meaſures, it then becomes their duty to check him. If they at any time have reaſon to diſtruſt the rectitude of his principles, they ſhould not allow him to execute deſigns, even of the ſmalleſt moment, without previouſly laying them before the board, and obtaining their approbation. In ſhort, the beſt governor ſhould not, except in caſes of neceſſity, be ſuffered to conclude any points of importance without the ſanction of the board. But the expedient of a ſelect Committe equally prevents any ill conduct in the governor, and is beſides attended with advantages, which can rarely be expected from the whole body of counſellors. Five gentlemen well verſed in the Company's true intereſt, of abilities to plan, and reſolution to execute; gentlemen, whoſe fortunes are honourably approaching to affluence, and whoſe integrity has never ſuffered them to exceed the bounds of moderation; a Select Committee, compoſed of ſuch men, will tranſact more buſineſs in a week, than the council can in a month. The opinions and judgment of five men are as ſecurely to be relied on, even in affairs of the utmoſt conſequence, as ſixteen: They are leſs liable to diſſention, and it may be ſaid beyond a contradiction, that their adminiſtration is more diſtant from democratic Anarchy. The council, however, would not be a uſeleſs body; for whilſt the attention of the Committee was chiefly engaged in watching and repairing the main ſprings of government, the council would as materially ſerve the Company in attending to the many other movements of the grand machine, which are as eſſentially neceſſary to the public advantage and ſecurity. And that the Committee ſhould not be able to carry their powers to any dangerous length, they might be ordered annually, before the diſpatch of the Europe ſhips, to ſubmit their proceedings to the review of the gentlemen in Council, who might tranſmit their opinions thereupon to the Court of Directors. Your preſent Select Committee have from time to time laid moſt of their proceedings before council, and we intend to continue the ſame ſyſtem of candour, except in any political caſes of ſecrecy, when prudence may require that our reſolutions ſhould be confined to the knowledge of a few

11. Thus freely I have given you my opinion upon the ſort of government I could wiſh to ſee eſtabliſhed in this ſettlement; nor ſhall I think my duty done, till I have pointed out every meaſure that ſeems to me beſt calculated to preſerve your affairs from deſtruction. At Bengal the rule of ſucceſſion among your ſervants is perniciouſly exact: There are frequent occaſions where it ought to be ſet aſide; where experience, underſtanding, integrity, moderation, ought to take place of accidental ſeniority. The demerits of moſt your ſuperior ſervants have been ſo great, as you will learn from the Committee proceedings, that one can hardly imagine their future behaviour will intitle them to farther favours than you have hitherto beſtowed on them. I do not pretend to ſurmiſe what ſentence you may pronounce upon the gentlemen who came under the cenſure of the Committee; but whether it be moderate as ours, or ſevere as it deſerves, it will not much concern them, ſince all of them are now in very affluent circumſtances, and will probably return to Europe by this or the next year's ſhipping. Peruſe then the liſt of your covenanted ſervants upon this eſtabliſhment: You will find that many of thoſe next in ſucceſſion are not only very young in the ſervice, and conſequenly unfit for ſuch exalted ſtations, but are alſo ſtrongly tainted with the principles of their ſuperiors.—If your opinion ſhould correſpond with mine, ſome remedy will be judged neceſſary to be applied, and I confeſs I ſee but one. The unhappy change which within theſe few years has ariſen in the manners and conduct of your ſervants at Bengal, is alone ſufficient to remove the objections I once had to appointments from another ſettlement: and the difficulty which now too plainly appears of filling up vacancies in council with the requiſite attention to the Company's honour and welfare, inclines me to wiſh ſuch appointments more frequent. In the preſent ſtate of this preſidency, no meaſure can, I think, prove more ſalutary, than to appoint five or ſix gentlemen from the coaſt to the Bengal eſtabliſhment, and there to poſt them agreeable to their rank and ſtanding in the ſervice; Meſſrs. Ruſſell, Floyer, Alderſey, and Kelſall are among thoſe who would be well worthy your attention, if this plan ſhould be adopted. I cannot help further reccommending to your conſideration, whether, if every other method ſhould be found ineffectual, the tranſplanting a few of the young Bengal ſervants to Madraſs, would not be of ſignal ſervice both to themſelves and the Company. You will likewiſe conſider whether the ſettlement of Bombay is capable of furniſhing us with a few meritorious ſervants. With regard to Madraſs, the conduct of the gentlemen upon that eſtabliſh-

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ment is in general ſo unexceptionable, that to preſent Bengal with ſuch examples of regularity, diſcretion, and moderation, would, I think, be a means of reſtoring it to good order and government. It is paſt a doubt, that every attempt of reformation muſt fail, unleſs the ſuperior ſervants be exemplary in their principles and conduct. If we ſee nothing but rapacity among councellors, in vain ſhall we look for moderation among writers.

12. The ſources of tyranny and oppreſſion which have been opened by the European agents acting under the authority of the Company's ſervants, and the numberleſs black agents and ſub-agents acting alſo under them, will, I fear, be a laſting reproach to the Engliſh name in this country: it is impoſſible to enumerate the complaints that have been laid before me by the unfortunate inhabitants, who had not forgot that I was an enemy to oppreſſion. The neceſſity of ſecuring the confidence of the natives, is an idea I have ever maintained, and was in hopes would be invariably adopted by others; but ambition, ſucceſs, and luxury, have, I find, introduced a new ſyſtem of politics, at the ſevere expence of Engliſh honour, of the Company's faith, and even of common juſtice and humanity. The orders ſo frequently iſſued, That no writers ſhall have the privilege of duſtucks, I have ſtrictly obeyed; but I am ſorry to inform you, that all the wiſhed-for conſequences are not to be expected; the officers of the Government are ſo ſenſible of our influence and authority, that they dare not preſume to ſearch or ſtop a boat, protected by the name of a Company's ſervant; and you may be aſſured that frauds of that kind, ſo eaſy to be practiſed, and ſo difficult to be detected, are but too frequent. I have at laſt, however, the happineſs to ſee the completion of an event, which, in this reſpect as well as in many others, muſt be productive of advantages hitherto unknown, and at the ſame time prevent abuſes that have hitherto had no remedy; I mean the dewannee, which is the ſuperintendancy of all the lands, and the collection of all the revenues of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa. The aſſiſtance which the Great Mogul had received from our arms and Treaſury, made him readily beſtow this grant upon the Company; and it is done in the moſt effectual manner you can deſire. The allowance for the ſupport of the Nabob's dignity and power, and the tribute to his Majeſty, muſt be regularly paid; the remainder belongs to the Company. Revolutions are now no longer to be apprehended; the means of effecting them will, in future, be wanting to ambitious muſſulmen; nor will your ſervants, civil or military, be tempted to foment diſturbances, from whence can ariſe no benefit to themſelves. Reſtitution, donation money, &c. &c. will be perfectly aboliſhed, as the revenues from whence they uſed to iſſue will be poſſeſſed by ourſelves. The power of ſuperviſing the provinces, though lodged in us, ſhould not, however, in my opinion, be exerted. Three times the preſent number of civil ſervants would be inſufficient for the purpoſe: whereas, if we leave the management to the old officers of the Government, the Company need not be at the expence of one additional ſervant; and though we may ſuffer in the collection, yet we ſhall always be able to detect and puniſh any great offenders, and ſhall have ſome ſatisfaction in knowing that the corruption is not among ourſelves: by this means alſo, the abuſes inevitably ſpringing from the exerciſe of territorial authority, will be effectually obviated; there will ſtill be a Nabob, with an allowance ſuitable to his dignity, and the territorial juriſdiction will ſtill be in the chiefs of the country, acting under him and the Preſidency in conjunction, though the revenues will belong to the Company. Beſides, were the Company's officers to be the collectors, foreign nations would immediately take umbrage; and complaints preferred to the Britiſh Court might be attended with very embarraſſing conſequences: nor can it be ſuppoſed, that either the French, Dutch, or Danes, will acknowledge the Engliſh Company Nabob of Bengal, and pay into the hands of their ſervants the duties upon trade, or the quit-rents of thoſe diſtricts, which they have for many years poſſeſſed by virtue of the Royal Phirmaund, or by grants from former Nabobs.

13. Your revenues, by means of this new acquiſition, will, as near as I can judge, not fall far ſhort, for the enſuing year, of 250 lacks of Sicca rupees, including your former poſſeſſions of Burdwan, &c. Hereafter they will at leaſt amount to 20 or 30 lacks more. Your civil and military expences, in time of peace, can never exceed 60 lack of rupees; the Nabob's allowances are already reduced to 42 lack, and the tribute to the King is fixed at 26; ſo that there will be remaining, a clear gain to the Company of 122 lacks of Sicca rupees, or £.1,650,900. ſterling, which will defray all the expence of the inveſtment, furniſh the whole of the china treaſure, anſwer the demands of all your ſettlements in India, and leave a conſiderable balance in your treaſury: beſides, in time of war, when the country may be ſubject to the invaſions of bodies of cavalry, we ſhall, notwithſtanding, be able to collect a ſufficient ſum for our civil and military exigencies, and likewiſe for our inveſtments; becauſe a very rich part of the Bengal and Bahar dominions, are ſituated to the eaſtward of the Ganges, where we can never be invaded. What I have given you is a real, not imaginary, ſtate of your revenues, and you may be aſſured they will not fall ſhort of my computation.

14. Permit me here to have the honour of laying before you one ſtriking circumſtance which has occurred to me, in conſidering the ſubject of the Dewannee, and the conſequences of your large increaſe of revenues. I have already obſerved, that our acquiſition will give no umbrage to foreign nations, with reſpect to our territorial juriſdiction, ſo long as the preſent appearance

of the Nabob's power is preſerved; but I am convinced they will, ere long, entertain jealouſies of our commercial ſuperiority. Public complaints have indeed been already made from both French and Dutch Factories, that the dread of the Engliſh name, added to the encouragement of your ſervants at the different Aurungs, has deterred the weavers from complying with their uſual and neceſſary demands; and I am perſuaded, that, ſooner or later, national remonſtrances will be made on that ſubject. Perhaps one half of the trade being reſerved to the Engliſh Company, and the other divided between the French, Dutch, and Danes, in ſuch proportions as may be ſettled between their reſpective commiſſaries, might adjuſt theſe diſputes to the mutual ſatisfaction of all parties. Beſides, as every nation which trades to the Eaſt-Indies conſtantly brings out ſilver, for the purchaſe of merchandize in return, and as our revenues will, for the future, enable us to furniſh all our inveſtments, without any remittance from England, it ſeems neceſſary that we ſhould, in ſome degree, encourage the trade of others, in order that this country may be ſupplied by them with bullion, to replace the quantity we ſhall annually ſend to China, or to any other part of the world. It is impoſſible for me to be a ſufficient judge of the practicability or propriety of admitting other nations to ſuch a proportion of trade with us in theſe parts; nor will you ſuſpect that I entertain a thought of taking any ſtep, without inſtructions from you, in an affair of ſuch national importance. I do not even preſume to argue upon the ſubject; I only mention it as a point which has occurred to me, and which, I think, well merits your moſt ſerious conſideration.

15. Conſidering the Exceſſes we have of late years manifeſted in our conduct, the princes of Indoſtan will not readily imagine us capable of moderation, nor can we expect they will ever be attached to us by any other motive than fear. Meer Jaffier, Coſſim Aly, the nabob of Arcot (the beſt Muſſulman I ever knew) have afforded inſtances ſufficient of their inclination to throw off the Engliſh ſuperiority. No opportunity will ever be neglected that ſeems to favour an attempt to extirpate us though the conſequences, while we keep our army complete, muſt in the end be more fatal to themſelves. This impatience under the ſubjection, as I may call it, to Europeans is natural, but ſo great the infatuation of the natives of the country, that they look no farther than the preſent moment, and will put their all to the hazard of a ſingle battle. Even our young nabob, who is the iſſue of a proſtitute, who has little abilities, and leſs education to ſupply the want of them, mean, weak, and ignorant, as this man is, he would, if left to himſelf, and a few of his artful Flatterers, purſue the very paths of his predeceſſors. It is impoſſible therefore to truſt him with power, and be ſafe. If you mean to maintain your preſent poſſeſſions and advantages, the command of the army and receipt of the revenues muſt be kept in your hands: every wiſh he may expreſs to obtain either, be aſſured, is an indication of his deſire to reduce you to your original ſtate of dependency, to which you can never now return, without ceaſing to exiſt. If you allow the nabob to have forces, he will ſoon raiſe money; if you allow him a full treaſury without forces he will certainly make uſe of it to invite the Marrattas, or other powers, to invade the country, upon a ſuppoſition that we ſhall not ſuſpect the part he takes, and that ſucceſs will reſtore him to the full extent of his ſovereignty; for ſo ignorant is he, even of the nature of his own countrymen, that he would never imagine the very men he had paid to reſcue the dominions from us, would only conquer to ſeize the ſpoil for themſelves. Such is he whom we now call Nabob, and ſuch are the faithleſs politics of Indoſtan. We have adopted however a plan, which if ſtrictly adhered to, muſt effectually prevent his involving the Company, or himſelf, in any difficulties: Mahomed Reza Cawn, Roy Dullub, and Juggut Seat, men of the moſt approved credit and moderation, are appointed jointly to the management of all his affairs, nor is either of them to act ſingly in any meaſure of Government. The Royal Treaſury is under three different locks and keys, and each of theſe Miniſters of State has a key, ſo that no money can be iſſued for any ſervice whatever, without the joint knowledge and conſent of them all. Our Reſident at the Durbar is to inſpect the Treaſury accounts from time to time, as he or the Governor and Council may think proper: but we are never to interfere in the appointment or complaint of any officer under the Government, nor in any particulars relative to the above-mentioned departments, unleſs ſome extraordinary conduct of the Miniſtry ſhould render alteration requiſite. This form of Government I thought proper to recommend, in order to purge the Court of a ſet of knaves and paraſites, by whom the Nabob was ſurrounded, and who were always undermining our influence, that they might the more firmly eſtabliſh their own. So far you will obſerve we have exerted ourſelves in the arrangement of the Nabob's affairs; but it is a meaſure of the utmoſt conſequence, ſince it lays the foundation of that tranquillity, moderation, and regularity, which will ſupport the Government againſt any future attempts to a revolution; and we are determined to intereſt ourſelves at the city in no other reſpect. I need only add, that Mr. Sykes, for whom we intend the Reſidentſhip, is a Gentleman, from whoſe inflexible integrity, and long experience in the country politics, we have reaſon to expect the moſt exact performance of every duty in ſuch an important ſtation.

16. The regulation of the nabob's miniſtry, the acquiſition of the dewannee, and the honourable terms on which we have conducted a peace with the vizier of the empire, have placed the dignity and advantages of the Engliſh Eaſt India Company on a baſis more firm than our moſt ſanguine

anguine wiſhes could a few months ago have ſuggeſted. Theſe however alone will not enſure your ſtability; theſe are but the out-works which guard you from your natural enemies, the natives of the country: all is not ſafe; danger ſtill ſubſiſts from more formidable enemies within; Luxury, Corruption, Avarice, Rapacity, theſe have poſſeſſion of your principal poſts, and are ready to betray your citadel. Theſe therefore muſt be extirpated, or they will infallibly deſtroy us; for we cannot expect the ſame cauſes which have ruined the greateſt kingdoms ſhould have different effects on ſuch a ſtate as ours. That ſudden growth of riches from whence thoſe evils principally ariſe, demands our moſt ſerious attention. The affairs of Bengal, however glorious and flouriſhing the proſpect may now be, cannot be ſucceſsfully managed by men whoſe views extend not beyond a year or two, and who will ſet all orders from the Court of Directors at defiance, well knowing they muſt have acquired an affluent fortune, or at leaſt a comfortable independency, before reſentment can reach them. A competency ought to be allowed to all your ſervants, from the time of their arrival in India, and advantages ſhould gradually increaſe to each, in proportion to his ſtation; but I would have few of them entertain hopes of returning to their native country, till they ſhall have attained the rank of counſellor; then the proſpect ſhould open to them, and they ſhould be certain of being enabled to return in a few years with independent fortunes. This certainty would ariſe from the freight ſhips, from the privileges of trade (the advantages of which you are not unacquainted with) and alſo from the profits upon ſalt, beetle, and tobacco, agreeable to the new regulation which we have made, in order to rectify the abuſes that have been ſo long committed in thoſe branches of trade, to the great detriment of the country government, without view of benefit to the Company.

17. The regulation now eſtabliſhed for the ſalt trade, will, I hope, be entirely to your ſatisfaction. I at firſt intended to propoſe, that the Company and their ſervants ſhould be jointly and equally concerned in the trade itſelf, but upon better conſideration, I judged that plan to be rather unbecoming the dignity of the Company, and concluded it would be better that they ſhould give the trade entirely to their ſervants, and fix a duty upon it for themſelves, equivalent to half the profits. This duty we have computed at the rate of thirty-five per cent. for the preſent, but I imagine, it will be able, next year, to bear an increaſe. The articles of Beetle and Tobacco, being of leſs conſequence, and yielding much leſs advantage, the duties upon them, of courſe, muſt be leſs. For farther particulars of theſe regulations, I beg leave to refer you to the Committee's letter and proceedings, as I would not here trouble you with the repetition of a matter which is there ſo fully laid before you.

18. The advantages propoſed for the Governor and Council, would undoubtedly appear extremely large, to thoſe who are unacquainted with the riches of Bengal, and the numberleſs opportunities which the Company's ſervants have of acquiring money: but you, who are now perfectly informed of the revenues of theſe kingdoms, and the prodigious emoluments within the reach of gentlemen high in the ſervice, will, I am perſuaded, agree with me, that if ſome plan, of the nature propoſed, be not adopted, the Governor and Council will ot fail to acquire much larger fortunes, by other means, in a much ſhorter time; which muſt always be productive of that quick ſucceſſion, not only ſo detrimental to your commercial intereſt, but ſo totally incompatible with the Acquiſition of political knowledge, which ought now to be conſidered as a very material qualification in all your civil as well as military ſervants. To obviate an objection which may ariſe, that they may poſſibly proceed in the old way of procuring money, notwithſtanding they accept of theſe allowances, I would have an oath tendered to them, of as ſtrong and ſolemn a nature as can be penned; I have drawn out the form of one, agreeable to my idea of the expedient, and have the honour to encloſe it for your conſideration. To this may be annexed a penalty bond of £. 150,000 to be executed by the Governor, and of £. 50,000 to be executed by each of the Council. Thus the conſcience of ſome will be awakened by the legal conſequences of perjury; and pecuniary puniſhment will be a ſure guard over the honeſty of others. Could the hearts of men be known by their general character in ſociety, or could their conduct in a ſtate of temptation, be aſcertained from their moderate attention to wealth, whilſt the ſudden acquiſition of it was impoſſible, the propoſal I make would be an affront to religion and to morality; but ſince that is not the caſe in any part of the World, and leaſt of all ſo in the Eaſt, we muſt for our own ſecurity impoſe ſuch reſtraints, as ſhall make it impoſſible even for hypocriſy to introduce corruption.

19. Having thus fully ſubmitted to you my ſentiments on the civil department, permit me to trouble you with a few obſervations on the military, which deſerves a no leſs ſerious attention. In the former part of this letter, I have mentioned that luxury, and an abhorrence of ſubordination, had overſpread your army, but that the good effects of appointing field officers had already become viſible. The Committee letter will incloſe a general return of their number, and enlarge upon the neceſſity of keeping each regiment complete to the eſtabliſhment; I therefore avoid ſaying any thing here upon thoſe ſubjects. That letter will alſo ſpecify the proportion of emoluments propoſed for the field officers, from the new-acquired advantages upon ſalt. The ſame objection may perhaps be made to this, which I ſuppoſed was likely to occur with reſpect

pect to the plan for the benefit of the civil ſervants; if ſo, I beg leave to refer you to my propoſal and remarks upon that ſubject, which are equally proper and applicable to this. Theſe points then I conclude are ſufficiently before you; and I proceed to recommend to your conſideration, that the regimenting of the troops has introduced a much larger number of officers of rank, than has hitherto been admitted upon your eſtabliſhment; and that this regulation beneficial and neceſſary as it is, will, notwithſtanding, be productive of one dangerous evil, if not conſtantly guarded againſt by the authority of the Governor and Council, ſupported and enforced by the higher powers at home. The evil I mean to appriſe you of, is the encroachment of the military upon the civil juriſdiction, and an attempt to be independant of their authority. A ſpirit of this kind has always been viſible; our utmoſt vigilence therefore is requiſite to ſuppreſs it, or at leaſt to take care that it ſhall not actually prevail. I have been at ſome pains to inculcate a total ſubjection of the army to the government, and I doubt not you will ever maintain that principle. In the field, in time of actual ſervice, I could wiſh to ſee the commander of your forces implicitly relied on for his plan of operations; orders from the preſidency may frequently embarraſs him, and prejudice the ſervice: at ſuch a time, he is certainly the beſt judge of what meaſures ſhould be purſued, and ought therefore to be truſted with diſcretionary powers; but he ſhould by no means be permitted to vary from the firſt general plan of a campaign, nor, from his own idea of the Company's intereſt, to proſecute operations of importance, when they are not alſo of real utility and emergency. I dwell not however entirely upon the conduct of a commander of the forces, as ſuch in the field; he is to underſtand that upon all occaſions, a gentleman in the Council is his ſuperior, unleſs he alſo has a ſeat at the Board, and then he will of courſe rank as he ſtands in that appointment. The whole army ſhould in like manner be ſubordinate to the civil power; and it is the indiſpenſable duty of the Governor and Council to keep them ſo. If at any time they ſhould ſtruggle for ſuperiority, the Governor and Council muſt ſtrenuouſly exert themſelves; ever mindful that they are the truſtees for the Company in this ſettlement, and the guardians of public property under a civil inſtitution.

20. It would give me pain to ſee a regulation ſo ſalutary as that of the appointment of field officers attended with any incoveniencies; and therefore I would earneſtly recommend the following very eaſy and effectual mode of prevention. Let the Equality in civil and military rank be immediately ſettled by the court of Directors. Were diſputes about precedence the only points to be adjuſted, they would not be worth a moment's reflection: but we are to conſider, that opportunities will ſometimes happen when military gentlemen may aſſume power and authority from the rank they hold among the civil ſervants, and perhaps pay no attention to orders iſſued from their ſuppoſed inferiors. Such contentions may have diſagreeable conſequences; and to prevent them, I propoſe, that all the Colonels (the commanders of the troops excepted, who is intitled to the rank of 3d in Council) ſhall be equal in rank to the counſellors, but always the youngeſt of that rank; the lieutenant colonels ſhould rank with ſenior merchants; the majors with junior merchants; captains with factors; and lieutenants and enſigns with writers. The rank of all officers below colonels, and of civil ſervants below counſellors, may be conſidered according to the dates of their commiſſions and appointments reſpectively: when ſuch a regulation has taken place, I think the appointment of field officers cannot be charged with a ſingle inconvenience.

21. Before I quit the ſubject of the army, I muſt repeat what, if I miſtake not, I mentioned to Mr. Rous before I left England, the propriety of appointing Sir Robert Barker to the command of a regiment in caſe of a vacancy. On the death of Colonel Knox, I heſitated not to appoint Sir Robert to the 3d regiment, but it met with oppoſition, not only from ſome of the gentlemen in Council, but afterwards from Sir Robert Fletcher, who thought himſelf aggrieved, though at a time when Barker was a captain, he was only a volunteer in your ſervice; and beſides Sir Robert Barker muſt on all occaſions, as the elder officer, have commanded in the field in the abſence of General Carnac and Colonel Smith, even if this appointment had not taken place. If I could imagine that his ſeniority in the ſervice did not ſufficiently entitle him to his preferment, I would urge his experience, which is greater than that of the other gentleman, and his diſintereſtedneſs, which made him accept what is ſo infinitely inferior, in point of emoluments, to the command of the artillery. Lieut. Colonel Peach has in like manner been objected to by the majors appointed by the governors and Council; but it has always been cuſtomary to prefer officers of your own appointment to thoſe of the ſame rank nominated by the governor and Council: I need not point out the propriety of your confirming this gentleman's Commiſſion. The introducing Lieut. Colonel Chapman alſo to that rank has met with the ſame objections: with regard to him, permit me to acquaint you, that he is a very old major in the king's ſervice; that he was ſtrongly ſolicited at Madraſs to continue there, and on very advantageous terms, when his regiment was ordered home; but that I found him at the Cape in his way to Europe; and it was with the utmoſt difficulty that Meſſrs. Sumner and Sykes and myſelf could prevail upon him to return to India next in rank to Lieut. Colonel Peach. His merits on the coaſt have been very great, and I conſider him as a very valuable acquiſition to your ſervice; I therefore

moſt

moſt earneſtly requeſt you will be pleaſed to confirm his appointment as lieutenant Colonel on this eſtabliſhment. Neither of theſe three gentlemen I have here ſpoken of can be cenſured for that ſpirit of licentiouſneſs and independency, which I have pointed out as the great evils we ought to guard againſt; and the variety as well as length of their ſervices will certainly be of conſiderable advantage to corps like ours. I muſt at the ſame time confeſs, that I cannot be reſponſible for that diſcipline and reformation we mean ſhall take place, unleſs the field officers are men I can depend upon. Moſt of the captains now in your ſervice have had ſo little experience, and are, I fear, ſo liable to the general objection, that I could wiſh to have five or ſix captains ſent out who have ſeen ſervice, who underſtand diſcipline, and who are well recommended by their colonels. If you ſhould think proper to extend this plan to majors, it will be ſo much the better; but there is no occaſion to go higher. Among the appointments you may be pleaſed to make in England, I could wiſh to find a majority upon this eſtabliſhment for Major Pemble, agreeable to the date of the brevet given him upon his arrival at this place. That gentleman has ſeen much ſervice, both on the coaſt of Coromandel and Manilla, and at Bengal; but being on the Bombay eſtabliſhment, where the riſe is ſo very ſlow, he has had the mortification to ſee himſelf conſtantly ſuperſeded by the coaſt and Bengal officers. You may be aſſured I would not trouble you with this recommendation, if I did not know him to be worthy of your notice.

22. The enquiries I have found myſelf under the neceſſity of promoting, the regulations which I judged proper ſhould take place without delay, together with thoſe I have here had the honour to propoſe for your mature deliberation, will, I doubt not, meet with that candid diſcuſſion which the importance of the ſubject requires. You will be pleaſed, upon the whole, to obſerve, that the great object of my labour has been (and it muſt alſo be yours) to ſtem that torrent of luxury, corruption, and licentiouſneſs, which have nearly overwhelmed the intereſt, and I might add the exiſtence, of the Company in theſe parts; to reduce your civil ſervants to a ſenſe of duty to their employers, and moderation in the purſuit of their own advantages; to introduce diſcipline, ſubordination, economy, into your army; and to prevent, in general, that ſudden acquiſition of riches, which is evidently the root of almoſt every other evil, both in the civil and military department.

23. Is there a man anxious for the ſpeedy return of his ſon, his brother, or his friend, and ſolicitous to ſee that return accompanied by affluence of fortune, indifferent to the means by which it may have been obtained? Is there a man, who void of all but ſelfiſh feelings, can withhold his approbation of any plan that promiſes not ſudden riches to thoſe his deareſt connexions; who can look with contempt upon meaſures of moderation; and who can cheriſh all upſtart greatneſs, though ſtigmatized with the ſpoils of the Company? If there is ſuch a man, to him all arguments would be vain; to him I ſpeak not.—My addreſs is to thoſe who can judge coolly of the advantages to be deſired for their relations and friends, nor think the body corporate wholly unintitled to their attention. If theſe ſhould be of opinion, that an independent fortune, honourably acquired in a faithful ſervice of 12 or 15 years, is more compatible with the intereſts of the Company, than to the late rapidity of the acquiſitions, and at the ſame time ſatisfactory to the expectations of Reaſon; I will venture to aſſert, that the regulations already made, together with thoſe propoſed, will, when enforced by the authority of the Court of Directors, inſure to the Company their commercial and political advantages, and be productive of certain independency to every ſervant who endeavours to deſerve it.

24. The general terms in which I have mentioned the depravity of this ſettlement oblige me to point out to your attention the inſtances, the very few inſtances, of diſtinguiſhed merit among the ſuperior ſervants. To find a man who, in the midſt of luxury and licentiouſneſs, had retained the true idea of commercial economy; who, inferior in fortune to moſt of your civil ſervants in the rank of counſellors, was yet ſuperior to all in moderation and integrity; whoſe regard for the welfare of the Public, and for the reputation of individuals, had made him warn others from falling into the temptations of corruption, which he ſaw were approaching; and who could actually reſiſt thoſe temptations himſelf, when a ſhare was allotted him of money he thought unwarrantably obtained: to find ſuch a man in ſuch a ſettlement would appear incredible, to thoſe who are unacquainted with Mr. Vereliſt. I have repreſented this Gentleman to you, as I ſhould every one, in his real character; and ſhall only add, that, if you wiſh to ſee the meaſures we are now purſuing ſupported with integrity, abilities, and reſolution, you will endeavour to prevail on him to continue in your ſervice, by appointing him to ſucceed Mr. Sumner in the government. To omit mentioning Mr. Cartier would be injuſtice, as he alſo ſtands high in my opinion: his character is clear, and his attachment to your ſervice, what it ought to be, unbiaſſed by any mean attention to his own advantages. I wiſh ſincerely your liſt of ſuperior ſervants would enable me to detain you longer on ſubjects of commendation; but I have finiſhed the picture, and I cannot add another figure that deſerves to be diſtinguiſhed from the groupe.

25. Having filled ſo many pages upon the ſubject of public affairs, you will indulge me with a few lines upon a circumſtance which concerns myſelf. Mr. Johnſtone, in his laſt minute in council, has thought proper to throw out ſome obſervations upon the validity of my title to

the Jaghire; inſinuating that the defect which he pretends to have diſcovered was not known at the time of my litigation with the Company. As I would not wiſh that a point in which my honour is concerned ſhould paſs unnoticed, I muſt obſerve that the King's Sunnud, which Mr. Johnſtone affirms was requiſite to be obtained within ſix months from the granting of the Jaghire, for the confirmation of it, is a matter of form only, and not underſtood to be eſſential. As a proof of this, I incloſe tranſactions of various Jaghire grants, properly atteſted by Mr. Vanſittart, the Perſian tranſlator; as alſo an atteſtation of the ſame gentleman, that the grant to me was as complete as other grants of that nature generally are; but to put this matter out of diſpute, the paper of agreement which Mr. Johnſtone alludes to, is of no more conſequence than a piece of blank paper, ſince it was never executed by me, or by any agent or vaqueel on my account; nor was any agent ever named or thought of by me. Incloſed, I tranſmit you a tranſlation of the very paper, atteſted by Mr. Vanſittart.

26. Permit me now to remind you, that I have a large family, who ſtand in need of a father's protection; that I ſacrifice my health, and hazard my fortune, with my life, by continuing in this climate: the firſt great purpoſes of my appointment are perfectly anſwered; peace is reſtored, and my engagement to procure for the Company the reverſion of my Jaghire, is compleated in the fulleſt manner, ſince it is not only confirmed by the preſent Nabob, but by the Great Mogul: I now only wait to be informed, whether my conduct thus far be approved of, and and whether the whole or any part of the regulations I have had the honour to lay before you are conformable to your ideas of the reformation neceſſary to be eſtabliſhed; if they meet with your approbation, I doubt not you will immediately impower me, in conjunction with the Select Committee, to finiſh the buſineſs ſo ſucceſsfully begun, which may eaſily be effected before the end of the enſuing year; when I am determined to return to Europe, and hope to acquaint you in perſon with the accompliſhment of every wiſh you can form for the proſperity of your affairs in Bengal.

27. I ſhall conclude this tedious letter, by obſerving, that my anxiety to know whether you approve of my conduct or not, can proceed from no other motive than my concern for the Public; ſince I continue invariable in the reſolution I formed, and expreſſed in a General Court long before the covenants were propoſed, of acquiring no addition to my fortune by my acceptance of the government; and I beg leave alſo to aſſure you, that, in order to obviate all ſuſpicion of a colluſion in this delicate point, I have not permitted either of the gentlemen of my family to hold an employment in your ſervice, nor to receive preſents, although they are not bound by covenants to the contrary. The ſmall congratulatory nazurs, elephants, horſes, &c. which I have been under a neceſſity of receiving, do not, I imagine, amount to any conſiderable ſum; but whatever it may be, not a farthing ſhall go into my own pocket. I have hitherto been too much engaged in matters of public importance to attend to a particular valuation; but I have cauſed an exact account to be kept of every, even the moſt trifling, preſent, which, at my return ſhall be ſubmitted to your inſpection; and in the mean time, the amount of the whole ſhall go towards defraying my extraordinary expences as Governor. The only favour I have to ſolicit for myſelf is, that although your Treaſury here will for the future be ſo full as to render it difficult for individuals to obtain bills upon the Company, payable at home, you will be pleaſed to indulge me with the uſual channel of remittance of my Jaghire, until it reverts to the Company. I have the honour to be, with the utmoſt reſpect,

Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient, and moſt humble Servant,

To the Honourable the Court of Directors. CLIVE.

28. I cannot help requeſting your attention to Mr. Willim Wynne, a young gentleman whom I brought out to India with me, and whom I was in hopes of ſeeing appointed a writer on the liſt of that year. I have cauſed him to tranſcribe this letter, that you may ſee he is qualified in point of penmanſhip; and as he has lived conſtantly with me, and acted as aſſiſtant to my ſecretary, I can take upon me to be reſponſible for his conduct and abilities in every reſpect: It is therefore my particular requeſt that you confer on him the ſtation of a writer, to rank from the time of his leaving England.

29. I beg alſo to recommend to your protection Mr. Maddiſon, a gentleman of a liberal education, and who promiſes to be a very valuable ſervant to the Company, from an uncommon facility in acquiring the Perſian language. As he is 27 years of age, you will not think me unreaſonable in ſoliciting for him the appointment of a factor.

CLIVE.

No. 74.

Extract of a Letter from the Court of Directors to the Preſident and Select Committee at Fort William in Bengal, 17th May 1766.

1. ON the 19th of laſt month we received the ſeveral packets committed to the care of Captain Griffin, in which was your letter of the 30th of September, one from Lord Clive, and a general letter, both dated the ſame day.

2. As

2. As ſome of the moſt important affairs have fallen under your management, which have ever occurred ſince the Company had a being, it is with the utmoſt ſatisfaction we obſerve with what zeal and true regard to the intereſt of your employers you have purſued ſuch meaſures, not only with reſpect to the political ſyſtem of the country, but the arduous taſk of diſcovering, and laying open to our view, the infidelity, rapaciouſneſs, and miſbehaviour, of our ſervants in general; of all which, you may be fully aſſured, we have the higheſt and moſt grateful ſenſe.

3 As ſtability to your plans for a peaceable poſſeſſion of our acquiſitions, and a thorough reformation in our ſervants in general, are objects of the greateſt importance, and in which the preſence of Lord Clive is eſſentially neceſſary; we made it our unanimous and earneſt requeſt, that his Lordſhip would continue another ſeaſon in Bengal; and which we here again repeat, in confidence and hopes of his Lordſhip's ready acquieſcence to complete what he has laid ſo good a foundation for, as you will obſerve by the accompanying triplicate of a letter we addreſſed to his Lordſhip, dated the 2d inſtant, which as the occaſion was ſo important, we ſent over land, for fear the mercury, by which you will receive this, ſhould not reach Bengal before the departure of his Lordſhip.

4. Although we think you have made a moſt unexpected progreſs in inveſtigating the many new and important affairs that have come before you, yet we conſider what you have done as neceſſarily imperfect, till you have had ſome experience of the effect of your regulations. You muſt not therefore look on the following obſervations and directions as carrying any diſapprobation of your conduct in general, but as reflections that occur to us on the firſt view of affairs ſo totally new to us. We truſt entirely to the continuance of your zealous endeavours to bring this great work to perfection.

6. From the ſentiments we exerciſed in every one of our late letters, you will eaſily judge the great pleaſure it gave us to ſee the war with Souja Dowla ended ſo conformable to our wiſhes. We always eſteemed the power of that ſoubah the ſtrongeſt barrier we could have againſt the invaſions of the northern powers, and of the Morattas, which have ſo long laid deſolate the northern provinces; and, had the impolitic, injudicious views of our late governor and council been followed, and the king, or Nudjeef Cawn, been left in poſſeſſion of Souja Dowla's Country, we are convinced they would not have had weight and abilities to have ſupported themſelves, and we muſt either have had their wars to maintain at that immenſe diſtance, or they would have been drove back on us, and brought the war down to our own frontiers, or even into our own provinces. Nothing could ſo effectually reſtore that country to its former ſtate, as putting its natural prince in the full poſſeſſion of his dominions; and we are equally pleaſed to ſee the care that has been taken of all thoſe who ſhewed their attachment to us in the courſe of the war. Bulwantſing's joining us at the time he did, was of ſingal ſervice, and the ſtipulation in his favour was what he was juſtly intitled to.

7. Equally politic and prudent are the conceſſions in favour of the king, whoſe intereſt was but conſidered by the reſtoring Souja Dowla to his country, the only Subah in Indoſtan who is ever likely to ſupport him in his pretenſions to the Empire. The revenue agreed to be paid him muſt be, in the eyes of the Indian powers, a mark of our reſpect to the royal blood, and an acknowlegement of his right. We approve alſo the being guarantee for Nudjeef Cawn; and finally we hope the moderation and attention paid to all thoſe who have eſpouſed our intereſt in this war, will reſtore our reputation in Indoſtan; and that the Indian powers will be convinced no breach of treaty will ever have our ſanction. We alſo hope the 50 Lacks ſtipulated to be paid by Souja Dowla will be, before this reaches you, diſcharged, and his Dominions entirely evacuated by our troops; and that none will remain under pretence of protection to the king's perſon, for that may lead to pretenſions to ſupport him in his claim to the Empire, a meaſure quite contrary to our views; being determined to make the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, the utmoſt bounds of our political views or poſſeſſions.

8. The article in the treaty with Souja Dowla, ſtipulating a trade duty-free through his dominions, we direct to be confined ſolely to the Company's trade; and even in that ſenſe of it, we mean only, if his dominions produce any goods fit for the European markets, or if it can be made the means of extending our trade in the woollen manufacture, or any other European goods.

9. We come now to conſider the great and important affair of the Dewannee, on which we ſhall give you our ſentiments, with every objection that occurs to us.

10. When we conſider that the barrier of the country government was entirely broke down, and every Engliſhman throughout the country armed with an authority that owned no ſuperior, and exerciſing his power to the oppreſſion of the helpleſs Native, who knew not whom to obey; at ſuch a criſis, we cannot heſitate to approve your obtaining the Dewannee for the Company.

11. When

11. When we look back to the ſyſtem that Lord Clive and the gentlemen of the Select Committee found eſtabliſhed, it preſents to us a Souba diſarmed, with a revenue of almoſt two Millions Sterling, (for ſo much ſeems to have been left, excluſive of our demands on him) at the mercy of our ſervants, who had adopted an unheared-of ruinous principle, of an intereſt diſtinct from the Company: This principle ſhewed itſelf in laying their hands upon every thing they did not deem the Company's property.

12. In the province of Burdwan, the reſident and his council took an annual ſtipend of near eighty thouſand Rupees per annum, from the Rajah, in addition to the Company's ſalary. This ſtands on the Burdwan accounts, and we fear was not the whole; for we apprehend it went further, and that they carried this pernicious principle, even to the ſharing with the Rajah of all he collected beyond the ſtipulated Mulgazurry, or land revenue, overlooking the point of duty to the Company, to whom properly every thing belonged that was not neceſſary for the Rajah's ſupport. It has been the principle too on which our ſervants have falſely endeavoured to gloſs over the crime of their proceedings, on the acceſſion of the preſent Souba, and we fear would have been ſoon extended to the graſping the greateſt ſhare of that part of the Nabob's revenues which was not allotted to the Company. In ſhort, this principle was directly undermining the whole fabrick, for whilſt the Company were ſinking under the burthen of the war, our ſervants were enriching themſelves from thoſe very funds that ought to have ſupported the war. But to Lord Clive and our Select Committee we owe that the Company are at laſt conſidered as principals in the advantages as well as dangers.

13. We muſt now turn our attention to render our acquiſitions as permanent as human wiſdom can make them. This permanency we apprehend can be found only in the ſimplicity of the execution. We obſerve the account you give of the office and power of the King's Dewan in former times, was the collecting of all the revenues, and after defraying the expences of the army, and allowing a ſufficient fund for the ſupport of the Nizamut, to remit the remainder to Delhi. This deſcription of it is not the office we wiſh to execute; the experience we have already had in the province of Burdwan, convinces us how unfit an Engliſhman is to conduct the collection of the revenues and follow the ſubtle native through all his arts to conceal the real value of his country, to perplex and to elude the payments. We, therefore, entirely approve of your preſerving the ancient form of government in the upholding the dignity of the Souba.

14. We conceive the office of Dewan ſhould be exerciſed only in ſuperintending the collection and diſpoſal of the revenues, which office, though veſted in the Company, ſhould officially be executed by our reſident at the Durbar, under the controul of the governor and Select committee; the ordinary bounds of which controul ſhould extend to nothing beyond the ſuperintending the collection of the revenues, and the receiving the money from the nabob's treaſury to that of the Dewannah or the Company. And this we conceive to be neither difficult nor complicated; for at the annual poonah the government ſettles with each Zemindar his monthly payments for the enſuing year; ſo the monthly payments of the whole, from the nabob's dewan is but the total of the monthly payment of each Zemindar; which muſt be ſtrictly kept up, and if deficient, the Company muſt trace what particular province, Rajah, or Zemindar, has fallen ſhort in his monthly payments; or if it is neceſſary to extend the power further, let the annual poonah, by which we mean the time when every landholder makes his agreement for the enſuing year, be made with the conſent of the dewan or Company. This we conceive to be the whole office of the Dewanny. The adminiſtration of juſtice, the appointment to offices or Zemindarries, in ſhort, whatever comes under the denomination of civil adminiſtration, we underſtand is to remain in the hands of the nabob or his miniſters.

15. The reſident at the Durbar being conſtantly on the ſpot, cannot be long a ſtranger to any abuſes in the government, and is always armed with power to remedy them; it will be his duty to ſtand between the adminiſtration and the encroachments always to be apprehended from the agents of the Company's ſervants, which muſt firſt be known to him; and we rely on his fidelity to the Company to check all ſuch encroachments, and to prevent the oppreſſion of the natives.—We gave you our ſentiments on the office of reſident in our letter of the 24th December laſt, which were what we thought ſuitable to the office as it then ſtood; but now that is become of ſo much more importance we ſhall leave the regulating of it to you, and deſire you will be very explicit on the ſubject; and ſhall only here fling out ſome few thoughts upon it.

16. We would have his correſpondence to be carried on with the ſelect Committee through the channel of the preſident; he ſhould keep a Diary of all his tranſactions; his correſpondence with the natives muſt be publickly conducted; copies of all his letters ſent and received be tranſmitted monthly to the preſidency, with duplicates and triplicates, to be tranſmitted home in our general packet by every ſhip.

Letter from the Court of Directors to Lord Clive.

My Lord,

1. We have received your Lordſhip's letter of the 30th September laſt, which, with the letter from the ſelect Committee, and their proceedings, have given us a clear view of the ſtate in which

which your lordſhip found our affairs on your arrival, and the ſtate in which they were at the time of the ſaid advices.

2. When we conſider the penetration with which your lordſhip at once deſcerned our true intereſt in every branch, the rapidity with which you reſtored peace, order, and tranquillity, and the unbiaſſed integrity that has governed all your actions, we muſt congratulate your lordſhip on being the happy inſtrument of ſuch extenſive bleſſings to thoſe countries; and you have our ſincereſt thanks for the great and important advantages thereby obtained for the Company.

3. We have the ſtrongeſt ſenſe of the deplorable ſtate to which our affairs were on the point of being reduced, from the corruption and rapacity of our ſervants, and the univerſal depravity of manners throughout the ſettlement; we agree entirely with your lordſhip, that the train our affairs were then in would in a very few months have brought us to a moſt dangerous ſituation.

4. The war in which we ſo impoliticly engaged againſt Suja Dowla, was carrying on at ſuch an immenſe loſs to the Company, as would in a ſhort ſpace have ſunk a great part of our capital, and the funds that ought to have been deſtined to the ſupport of that war were perverted to the baneful purpoſe of corrupting our ſervants: nor was this the only fatal conſequence of this war, ruin to the Company might have ſprung even from our ſucceſs; for either the king, unable to maintain himſelf, would have been drove back on the Bengal provinces; or, if he had been ſucceſsful thro' our aſſiſtance, the venality or ambition of our ſervants might have urged them on to have marched our forces with him to Delhi: Your Lordſhip and the ſelect Committee have happily relieved us from theſe apprehenſions, and put a period to the war, and all ſuch wild projects, by reſtoring Suja Dowla to his dominions.

5. Your Lordſhip juſtly obſerves our danger from within was yet greater than that from without.—The general relaxion of all diſcipline and obedience, of both military and civil, was haſtily tending to a diſſolution of all government, the quick progreſs of private fortunes was big with very alarming conſequences, which we do not dwell on, as you have expreſſed yourſelf ſo fully ſenſible of them; we hold the means by which they were obtained in every ſenſe unlawful.

6. Our letter to the ſelect Committee expreſſes our ſentiments of what have been obtained by way of donations; and to that we muſt add, that we think the vaſt fortunes acquired in the inland trade have been obtained by a ſcene of the moſt tyrannic and oppreſſive conduct that ever was known in any age or country; we have been uniform in our ſentiments and orders on this ſubject, from the firſt knowledge we had of it; and your lordſhip will not therefore wonder that after the fatal experience we had of the violent abuſes committed in this trade that we could not be brought to approve it even in the limited and regulated manner with which it comes to us in the plan laid down in the Committee's proceedings: we agree in opinion with your lordſhip on the propriety of holding out ſuch advantages to our chief ſervants, civil and military, as may open to them the means of honourably acquiring a competency in our ſervice; but the difficulty of the ſubject, and the ſhort time we have at preſent to conſider of it, have obliged us to defer giving our ſentiments and directions thereupon until the next diſpatch.

7. For the ſame reaſons your lordſhip will obſerve, by our letter to the ſelect Committee, that we are under the neceſſity of poſtponing the conſideration of the preſent intended for general Carnac by the King; but by the next diſpatch your lordſhip may be aſſured we ſhall have due regard therein to your lordſhip's recommendations, and his particular merit.

8. As the inland trade has been aboliſhed, principally with a view to the encouragement of the natives, we hope your lordſhip will find the means to prevent its becoming a Monopoly in any hands, but more particularly in the hands of any powerful native, from whom the poor might ſuffer thoſe very inconveniences, for the prevention of which we have forbid our ſervants to trade in it, and have relinquiſhed thoſe advantages that we ourſelves might make by ſuch a Monopoly.

9. We have had too much occaſion to remark the tyrannic and oppreſſive conduct of all European agents who have got away from under the eye of the preſidency; and we with your lordſhip would make it an object of your conſideration, how to confine the ſaid Europeans as much as poſſible to the preſidency, and to thoſe ſubordinates where the largeneſs of the inveſtment may require it to be conducted by covenanted ſervants, preferably to gomaſtahs.

10. We have not at preſent time to enter into the thorough examination of what your lordſhip propoſes, reſpecting the eſtabliſhing of rank and precedence between our civil and military ſervants. In our letter of the 24th of December, we determined, that the preſident and council might delegate their authority to any civil ſervant they pleaſed; and every military officer, be his rank what it might, ſhould pay the ſame obedience to the orders of ſuch civil ſervant, as to thoſe of the preſident and council.—It is not meant however that ſuch civil ſervant is to controul the military officer in the execution of military operations, which is his proper department.

11. We have the moſt perfect ſenſe of your Lordſhip's diſintereſtedneſs in every part of your conduct, and we ſhall not fail to repreſent this to the proprietors, and ſhall at the ſame time inform them of the many great advantages your Lordſhip has obtained for the Company; but we fear, my Lord, paſt experience will teach them as it does us, that the permanency of thoſe advantages will depend much on your Lordſhip's continuing in India, till you have ſeen the regulations firmly eſtabliſhed for the conducting theſe important affairs: Another year's experience and peaceable enjoyment of our acquiſitions, might fix them on a baſis that would give hopes they may be as laſting as they are great; and there is no doubt, my Lord, but the general voice of the proprietors, indeed we may ſay, of every man who wiſhes well to his country, will be to join in our requeſt, that your Lordſhip will continue another year in India: We are very ſenſible of the ſacrifice we aſk your Lordſhip to make, in deſiring your continuance another year in Bengal, after the great ſervice you have renderd the Company, and the difficulties you have paſſed through in accompliſhing them, under circumſtaces, in which your own example has been the principal means of reſtraining the general rapaciouſneſs and corruption, which had brought our affairs ſo near the brink of ruin: Theſe ſervices, my Lord, deſerve more than verbal acknowlegments; and we have no doubt that the proprietors will concur with us in opinion, that ſome ſolid and permanent retribution, adequate to your great merits, ſhould crown your Lordſhip's labours and ſucceſs. We are,

My Lord,
Your Lordſhip's
loving friends,

London, 17th May 1766.

CHARLES CHAMBERS — GEO. DUDLEY,
J. PARDOE, — THOS ROUS,
JOS DU PRE, — JOHN STEPHENSON,
THOS SAUNDERS, — CHA. CUTTS,
GEORGE CUMING, — HENY SAVAGE,
JOHN HARRISON, — CHRISTO BARON,
J. PURLING, — FREDK PIGOU,
JOHN ROBERTS, — F. W. BARRINGTON,
PETER DU CANE, Junior, — EDWD WHELER,
GEORGE WOMBWELL, — LUKE SCRAFTON,
ROB. JONES, — E. H. CRUTTENDEN.

No. 75.

Berkley Square, 14th January 1768.

Gentlemen,

I conceived that my anſwer to your ſecretary's letter of the 1ſt inſtant might have induced you to reflect, that if there were any materials in my poſſeſſion, which did not appear in the public proceedings of my government, they were unneceſſary, if not improper, for public communication; but I find that my letter, inſtead of having ſuch effect, has almoſt produced a requiſition of ſome papers, which you have been informed, have been in my hands, containing proofs of Mr. Vanſittart's having received ſeven Lacks of Rupees for making the Mongheer treaty; as you have thought proper, thus to preſs this matter, I will not decline to acknowlege that I am poſſeſſed of ſome informations upon that ſubject; I muſt at the ſame time acquaint you, that I tranſmitted from Bengal to Mr. Dudley, your chairman, my reaſons for not entering into every public enquiry directed in your letters by the Camden, and I now incloſe a copy of ſuch part of my advices to him, for your obſervation. I have to add, that upon my arrival in England I communicated to your chairman, Mr. Rous, the informations now alluded to: After ſuch proceeding on my part, I might have hoped, that if at any time theſe private materials became neceſſary to the Court of Directors, on grounds of public utility, the application for them would have been in a private requeſt from the chairman, with whom I have ever been moſt ready to co-operate, and whoſe repreſentation of a real neceſſity of producing the particulars would have had weight with me. I will hope, that upon due conſideration of what I have now laid before you, no farther expoſition will be thought neceſſary for me.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
your moſt obedient and
moſt humble ſervant,
CLIVE.

To the honourable the Court of Directors for affairs of the honourable united Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

Extract

Inclosure in No 75.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to George Dudley, Esquire, dated Calcutta, 8th September 1766.

After having explained myself so fully upon this subject, give me leave to expostulate with you as chairman, in that friendly manner, and on that intimate footing, which I would always wish to be with the present Court of Directors. After a general court of proprietors had reposed so much confidence in me, and that confidence was so strongly confirmed by a letter which I received from the Court of Directors, where was the necessity of pointing out to me so many very disagreeable and odious enquiries? Could not the directors have postponed their sentiments until they had seen in what manner I had conducted myself? Could a Court of Directors, for whom I had so high an esteem, imagine that I would leave ought undone, or unenquired into, that would tend to their honour, or the advantage of the Company? Certainly I would not; my own reputation was too much at stake to admit a thought to the contrary.

You may be assured it gives me pain to be reduced to the necessity of declining obedince to any of your orders; but retrospection into actions, which have been buried in oblivion for so many years; which, if enquired into, may produce discoveries which cannot bear the light; which can be of no advantage to the Company, but may bring disgrace upon the narion, and at the same time blast the reputation of great and good families, who will suffer for the Iniquity of individuals; wantonly to occasion so much uneasiness is what I cannot reconcile to those principles of humanity by which I have always been actuated; neither do I think it sound policy to enquire into the proceedings of that committee which placed Cossim Ally upon the Musnud: The bad actions of servants frequently reflect dishonour upon their masters; the present flourishing condition of our East India Company cannot but occasion much national jealouly; and proceedings of such a nature, made public, might occasion a parliamentary enquiry, and that enquiry might extend to the India House itself: upon reflection, I am persuaded the Directors will approve of my conduct in discouraging this examination, in the manner pointed out in their general letter of Lord Camden.

With regard to the other enquiries, where the Company's interest and honour are more immediately concerned, they shall be fully investigated.

No. 76.

Gentlemen, Pesinas, 20th April, 1768.

I Have received another letter from your secretary, demanding, a second time, some papers relative to Mr. Vansittart's conduct in Bengal. Although I still persevere in thinking you have no manner of right to require the papers from me, yet as Mr. Vansittart himself seems desirous, by his letter to me (copy of which he informs me he has inclosed to you) that those papers should be sent, I have given my attornies instructions accordingly to deliver them into your hands, to be used as to you in your discretion shall seem meet, if he still persists in the same way of thinking. I have the honour to be,

gentlemen,

your most obedient humble servant,

To the Court of Directors. CLIVE.

No. 77.

Paris, 19th June 1768.

Gentlemen,

IN conformity with Mr. Vansittart's request, dated the 13th instant, and received by the last post, I transmit to you the Depositions of Bollachidass and Sheik Heydayat Alla, with respect to that gentleman.

I have the honour to be, with respect,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient,
And most humble servant,
JOHN WALSH.

To the hounourable the Court of Directors for the affairs of the united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

No. 78.

Sheik Hedayet Alla deposeth,

THAT in the year 1762, in the month of December, when Mr. Henry Vansittart, accompanied by several other gentlemen, waited on the Nabob Cossim Ally Cawn, at Monghyr, he then acted in the office of treasurer under his excellency; and that, in pursuance of the Nabob's commands, he issued the sum of two lacks, at four or five different payments,

for

for Mr. Van Sittart; and that two ladies who were in company with the Governor went into the Zenana, and received Jewels.

This, being a faithful tranſlation from the Perſian original, is atteſted this 18th day of January, by me,

W. H. COXE, ſworn tranſlator.

The Mark -|- of Sheik Hedayet Alla.
Sworn to before me,

H. VERELST.

No. 79.

The Depoſition of Bollackidaſs, Sahicar, or Banker.

IN the year 1762, in the month of December, Mr. Henry Vanſittart arrived at Monghyr, and had an interview with the Nabob Coſſim Ally Cawn: I was employed in negociating bills for the ſaid Nabob one or two days before the departure of Mr. Vanſittart for Azimebad; his excellency retiring with me into a private apartment, ſignified to me his pleaſure that I ſhould tranſmit the ſum of five lacks of rupees to Mr. Henry Vanſittart in Calcutta; in conſequence of theſe his excellency's inſtructions, I wrote an order to Gurdharreloll, my Gomaſtah in the factory of Hughly, to pay the aforeſaid amount into the hands of Mr. Vanſittart; afterwards, on the return of this gentleman to Calcutta, the Gomaſtah cauſed the money aforeſaid to be delivered to him, and gave me information thereof, which I made report of to his excellency the Nabob.—The ſtrict truth of this tranſaction I have faithfully related. Written this 6th day of Shawban (January) in the eighth year of his Majeſty's auſpicious reign.

The above, being a faithful tranſlation from the Perſian original, is atteſted this 18th day of January 1767, by me,

W. H. COXE, ſworn tranſlator.

The hand Writing of Bollackidoſs.
Calcutta, the 19th of January 1767.
ſworn before me,

H. VERELST.

No. 80.

London, 15th September, 1768.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the Eaſt India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

I HAVE received from your ſecretary the copies of two papers delivered to the Court by Lord Clive; one being a declaration of Boolakydaſs; ſetting forth, that a day or two before I took leave of Meer Coſſim, at Mongheer, he received orders to pay me five lacks of Rupees; the other, an information of Sheik Hedayet Colla, importing, that he by the ſame order, paid me two lacks of Rupees; and that the ladies who were with me viſited the Nabob's ladies, and received a preſent of Jewels.

Nobody is better acquainted with the cuſtoms of that country than Lord Clive, who has brought theſe informations before the Court. I appeal to his own candour, whether, upon viſits of this ſort, preſents are not cuſtomary, and in a manner indiſpenſable.

But I do not mean to recriminate upon his lordſhip; much leſs upon any ladies who had the honour of being in his company upon ſuch occaſions. I ſhall content myſelf with defending my own character; and ſhall expoſe to you very fairly the principles upon which I acted at all times in your ſervice.

From the earlieſt date of the Company's ſettlements, preſents from the people of the country made a part of the benefit of your governments; and this advantage increaſed in proportion to the extent of your connexions, until, by a freſh covenant, in the year 1765, you thought fit to put a ſtop to it.

In ſuch circumſtances, I hope ſome praiſe is due to thoſe ſervants who made the moſt moderate uſe of the opportunities their ſituation preſented to them; who preferred always the Company's intereſt to their private emolument; who never directly or indirectly fought for preſents; but, on the contrary, refuſed all ſuch as could in any manner affect or retard payments due to the Company, or lay the perſon offering it under any diſtreſs or inconvenience.

Let Lord Clive ſay if any inhabitant of Bengal has a complaint to make againſt me upon this head, or indeed upon any other: As to Boolakydaſs and Sheik Hedayet Colla, whoſe names appear to the informations laid before you by his lordſhip, it will be ſeen that the former complains only of the authority by which he was forced to give that information; and as to the latter,

latter, I do not even recollect his name; nor did I, to my knowledge, ever tranſact any buſineſs with him.

All Meer Coſſim's payments were made, either by Boolakydaſs, Coja Petrus, or the Roy Royan, or in aſſignments payable to the Chiefs of Patna and Coſſimbuzar.

In theſe different ways I received all that was due to the Company; I received likewiſe ſeveral ſums upon account of Lord Clive, and other gentlemen, for the remaining part of a preſent, ſtipulated in the year 1757, and upon various other accounts; but I do not remember that Sheik Hedayet Alla was employed upon any of theſe occaſions.—Soon after Boolakydaſs had given to Lord Clive the writing which he has laid before the Court, he wrote me a letter to acquaint me, that in compliance with his lordſhip's commands he had ſigned a paper, of which he ſent me a copy.

Herewith I have tranſmitted the original letter, and a tranſlation; and can only lament, that, at a time when the degrees of cenſure and of praiſe were meaſured upon the ſcale of his lordſhip's good pleaſure, it was my misfortune to have him take ſo determined a part againſt me.

But ſuppoſing for a moment that the informations were true to their full extent; which, however, I do not admit; what do they import? that the chief of the country having fulfilled all his engagements with the Company, paid off the Arrears of his predeceſſors troops, and brought his finances into good order, made preſents of money and jewels to his friends in the cuſtomary manner.

But it ſeems by your letter to lord Clive, of the 6th January laſt, that his lordſhip had repreſented the preſents alluded to in the informations in queſtion, as a conſideration given by Meer Coſſim for the treaty of Mongheer. If the regulations contained in that treaty had been aſked or propoſed by Meer Coſſim, or had conveyed any benefit or advantage to his Government, there might have been ſome ſhew of reaſon for his lordſhip's unfriendly conſtruction; but when it is ſeen that the object of thoſe regulations was to give the Engliſh traders a decided right to partake in the inland trade upon the moſt moderate terms, a duty of 9 per cent. upon a trade which the Company have ſince rated at 40 per cent. and that meer Coſſim conſented only, as he declares in many letters, for the ſake of preſerving good harmony with the Engliſh; when both the parties concerned in the treaty regarded it as an acquiſition to the Engliſh traders, and a conceſſion on the part of the Nabob; in ſuch a caſe, for what ſhould he give a conſideration? ſhall he who gives up his pretenſions, give money likewiſe to induce the other party to accept his reſignation? ſuch a ſuppoſition is ſo contrary to reaſon, that the attempt to propagate it could proceed only from the moſt ungenerous deſign to prejudice me in your opinion; but, I flatter myſelf, without effect; for you are ſo far from regarding the articles propoſed at Mongheer, as a regulation in favour of the Nabob, that you call it "A treaty exacted by force to "obtain a ſanction for a trade to enrich ourſelves." The Nabob could be little inclined to give preſents for ſuch a conſideration, it might rather have induced him to omit the uſual civilities.

I have never endeavoured, gentlemen, to make you or the World believe that I paſſed through the government of Bengal without receiving preſents, at a time when there was no law againſt it, and ſo many great examples for it; but this I have ſaid, and with the ſtricteſt truth, that I never received one that could prejudice the Company, or diſtreſs the country, or put back, even for a day, any public or private payments depending for others. Whenever any thing of this ſort interfered, and in ſhort, whenever the leaſt objection could ariſe, I conſtantly refuſed all preſents; and refuſed them abſolutely and without reſervation.—It is well known that upon this principle I rejected all Meer Coſſim's Offers of preſents in the firſt part of his government. You have an inſtance of this in the conſultations from Bengal, the January, 1761; which, though the ſum in queſtion was not very large, may ſtill ſerve to ſhew that I had a certain rule of conduct in which I perſevered invariably. I might otherwiſe have been tempted by the offer which Meer Jaffier preſſed on me, by means of Nundcooman and Juggutchund, juſt before I left Bengal.

They told me that Meer Jaffier inſiſted on my receiving a preſent of five lacks for the charges of my voyage. I was not then reſtrained by any orders or covenants, but the ſtate of the Nabob's circumſtances was ſufficient in my opinion to forbid it; and accordingly my anſwer was, that being ſenſible of the many engagements he had to fulfil, I would by no means add to his diſtreſs.—This fact is mentioned by Juggutchund in his examination, which is before the Court, and partly alſo by Nobkiſſen, who, as he knew ſuch an offer was made me, muſt alſo have known the reſult, although he chuſes to be as ſhort as poſſible upon it.

Here, gentlemen, I ſhall leave the matter to your candid and impartial conſideration, perſuaded that the more you examine my conduct, the more you will be convinced that the love of money was never my ruling paſſion. If it had, my opportunities were many, and I could have gratified it to as great an extent as any of my predeceſſors: I ſpeak this without

envy or resentment; but I really think his lordship might have spared his reproaches upon this score.

I am with respect,
Honourable Sirs,
Your most obedient humble servant,
HENRY VAN SITTART.

N°. 81.

Letter from Boolakydoss to Mr. Vansittart, dated the 20th of Shawbaun, in the 8th Year of the Reign.

YOU are well acquainted with my situation. Lately Lord Clive sent for me, and said, the nabob Cossim Aly Cawn gave Mr Vansittart five lacks of rupees through your hands, is it not true? I answered, it is true. But in that amount was a bill for the expences of Mr. Ellis the chief of Patna, and there was likewise included the price of the jewels deposited by the Naboh Jaffier Aly Cawn. This was the state of the matter.—Lord Clive then said, write, and give me a declaration under your hand, of five lacks of Rupees.———Being without remedy, I wrote it conformably to his order, and gave it him; and I have sent you herewith an exact copy of it for your perusal.—As you are my only friend and protector, I thought fit to acquaint you with the matter.

No. 82.

Copy of a Letter from Lord Clive to Thomas Rous, Esquire, dated at Madrass, the 17th April 1765.

Dear Sir,

WE arrived at this place the 10th instant, and shall proceed to Bengal next Saturday. The Prince of Wales kept us company the greatest part of the way to Ceylon, and is by this time, I hope at her destined port, all well. I must now enter with you into the politics of India. The particulars of our late success, and now very flourishing condition of the Company's Affairs in Indostan, you will have been informed at large, before this reaches you. I shall therefore only trouble you with my sentiments, in consequence of those successes, and trust to your co-operating with me in carrying into execution, and in establishing upon the most solid basis, such parts of my plan as appear capable of answering what we have both so disinterestedly at heart, the Company's honour and prosperity.

We have at last arrived at that critical period, which I have long foreseen; I mean that period which renders it necessary for us to determine, whether, we can or shall take the whole to ourselves. Jaffier Ally Kan is dead, and his natural son is a minor; but I know not whether he is yet declared successor. Sujah Dowla is beat from his dominion; we are in possession of it, and it is scarcely hyperbole to say, to-morrow the whole Mogul Empire is in our power. The inhabitants of the country we know by long experience have no attachment to any obligation; their forces are neither disciplined, commanded, nor paid, as ours are. Can it then be doubted that a large army of Europeans will effectually preserve us sovereigns, not only holding in awe the attempts of any country prince, but by rendering us so truly formidable, that no French, Dutch, or other enemy will presume to molest us.—You will I am sure imagine with me, that after the length we have run, the princes of Indostan must conclude our views to be boundless; they have seen such instances of our ambition, that they cannot suppose us capable of moderation. The very Nabobs whom we might support, would be either covetous of our possessions, or jealous of our power. Ambition, fear, avarice, would be daily watching to destroy us, a victory would be but a temporary relief to us, for the dethroning of the first Nabob would be followed by the setting up another, who, from the same principles, would, when his treasure admitted of his keeping up an army, pursue the very path of his predecessor. We must indeed become Nabobs ourselves in fact, if not in name, perhaps totally so without disguise; but on this subject I cannot be certain until my arrival in Bengal.—Let us, and without delay, complete our three European regiments to 1000 men each; such an army, together with 500 Light Cavalry, three or four companies of Artillery, and the forces of the country, will certainly render us invincible. In short, if riches and security are the objects of the Company, this is the method, the only method, now for securing them.—Our troops you will hear are at this time above half way to Delhi, a march I highly disapprove of: I mean absolutely to bound our possessions and conquests to Bengal. Never shall the going to Delhi be a plan adopted by me, if possible to be avoided; and you may depend upon my putting a stop to it; nor should I even have thought of going such length, if others had not rendered it necessary. I could have wished that our operations had been carried on upon a plan of more moderation, and that we had not been obliged to maintain any other military force, than what might be sufficient to preserve and pursue our commerical advantages; but since our views are extended, and

since

ſince commerce alone is not the whole of the Company's ſupport, we moſt go forward; to retract is impoſſible. One word more: Increaſe our army to the eſtabliſhment above mentioned; 20,000 ſmall arms, with gunpowder ſufficient, and remember that the Light Cavalry are moſt neceſſary. The eſtabliſhment for Madraſs is ſufficient, no addition is wanted there; but Bengal requires your attention. Give me leave now to lead you for a few moments into the civil department. See what an Augean ſtable is to be cleanſed. The confuſion we behold; what does it ariſe from? Rapacity and luxury; the unwarrantable deſire of many to acquire in an inſtant, what only a few can or ought to poſſeſs. Every man would be rich, without the merits of long ſervices; and from this inceſſant competition undoubtedly ſprings that diſorder, to which we muſt apply a remedy or be undone; for it is not only malignant but contagious. The new covenants (though I do not entirely approve of their preſent ſhape) will make a beginning. Many of the civil ſervants will probably reſign their employments, the Court of Directors muſt ſupply the ſettlement with young men, more moderate or leſs eager in their purſuit of wealth; and we may perhaps be reduced to the neceſſity of drawing ſome ſenior ſervants from the other ſettlements.——It muſt be your care, and I truſt you will do all in your power, to ſend out proper gentlemen: Affairs ſeem to be coming to ſuch a paſs, that in a little time there will be hardly any perſon at the council board, above the rank or age of a writer. In ſhort, the evils, civil and military, are enormous, but they ſhall be rooted out. Whatever odium may be thrown upon me, by the malice or diſapointment of individuals, I am reſolved to act for the advantage of the Company in every reſpect. I have not time here to inform you of my whole plan of reformation, but the motives upon which I have founded it being no other than the public good, you may ſafely exert yourſelf in its ſupport, if it ſhould ſtand in need of your aſſiſtance, which I hardly think it can, even though faction ſhould be ſtill raging. I propoſe no advantage to myſelf——I am determined to return to England without having acquired one farthing addition to my fortune—Surely then I cannot poſſibly deſign any thing but public good.

Our affairs are now in ſuch a ſituation as to require the conduct of them ſhould he managed with the utmoſt ſecrecy, and conſequently the knowledge of them confided to few.—I mention this becauſe I find that your ſecret Committee is aboliſhed, and I wiſh to hear very ſoon that it is re-eſtabliſhed.

As I have written to Mr. Walſh upon this ſubject, and thought proper to uſe the ſame precaution I have to you, I muſt beg you to funiſh him with the key, and likewiſe with a copy of this letter.

I am, Dear Sir
Your obliged Friend,
and humble ſervant,
(Signed) CLIVE.

N°. 85.

Madraſs, 17 April 1765.

Copy.

Dear Walſh.

Memorandum: Thoſe Parts in Cypher,
are diſtinguiſhed thus " "

I Have deſired Mr. Rous to furniſh you with a copy of my letter to him of this day's date, likewiſe with the cypher, that you may be enabled to underſtand what follows: " The " contents are of great importance, that I would not have them tranſpire. Whatever money " I have in the public funds, or any where elſe, and as much as can be borrowed in my " name, I deſire may be without loſs of a minute inveſted in Eaſt India ſtock. You will " ſpeak to my attornies on this point. Let them know I am anxious to have my money ſo " diſpoſed of; and preſs them to haſten the affair as much as poſſible."—If a ſucceſſor to Mr. Palk is not abſolutely fixed upon, I beg you will exert your whole influence with Mr. Rous in favour of Mr. Call. I can aſſure you he appears to me by far the moſt proper perſon in this ſettlement to ſucceed to the government; in him both the civil and military qualities are united; and I need not add, that in the recommendation of him I am biaſſed by nothing but the good of the Company.

I am,
Dear Walſh,
Your affectionate Friend,
CLIVE.

No. 84.

No. 84.

Fort William, the 7th May, 1765.

At a Select Committee;

PRESENT,

The Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, President,
William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire,
Francis Sykes, Esquire.

HAVING, in a council held the 5th instant, read and duly considered the paragraphs of the honourable Company's general letter, under date the 1st June 1764, whereby the right honourable Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, esquire, Brigadier General John Carnac, Harry Verelst, and Francis Sykes, esquires, are appointed to constitute a select Committee, in order to restore peace and tranquillity to the Company's affairs in Bengal: We do now by virtue of these powers assemble ourselves, in the manner enjoined by our instructions, as the only means which occurs to us, in the present situation of affairs, for obtaining the salutary end proposed.

Resolved, that the following oath be taken by the several members of the select Committee:

"I A. B. do swear, that I will not reveal to any person whatever, any of the proceedings "of this Committee, until the same be laid before the council, or until this Committee be dis-"solved."

Agreed, That Mr. Alexander Campbell be appointed Secretary, Mr. Edward Barber Sub-secretary, and Mr. William Rooke, assistant, to the Committee; and that the following oath of secrecy be administered to them:

"I A. B. do swear, to be true and faithful to the trust reposed in me by the select Com-"mittee, and to reveal to no person whatever the proceedings of that department, until the "same are laid before the council."

The right honourable the president having delivered a letter, containing a full declaration of his lordship's own intentions, and his sense of the particular duty of the Select Committee;

Ordered, that the same be here entered.

The Right honourable the President's Letter to Committee.

Gentlemen,

Little did I imagine, when I resigned this government five years ago, that I should ever enter upon it again; nor are you ignorant that my present circumstances and situation of life render such an appointment on my part by no means an object either of necessity or choice; but the late distracted state of affairs in these parts having alarmed the proprietors of stock, their mutual interests necessarily became the serious consideration, not only of the Court of Directors, but also of several general Courts; and at one of the most numerous of those, it was proposed, that I should be desired to resume the government of Bengal; a motion which was warmly seconded, and approved of by every member present: thus solicited by the unanimous voice of the proprietors, thus flattered with the opinion they had conceived of my abilities to settle their affairs upon a solid plan, my zeal for the service took place of every private consideration; and I accepted the appointment upon such conditions as I judged expedient for the public good.

The success of the forces I had the honour to command in the year 1767, completed a revolution in favour of Meer Jaffier; an event on which the existence of the East India Company at that time absolutely depended, and which afforded the fairest prospect of future tranquillity to this country: The treaty concluded with him was productive of large advantages to the nation, as well as to individuals, and seemed to insure to the company the benefits of commerce in a much wider extent than they had heretofore enjoyed.

My successors, soon after my departure, thought proper to raise Cossim Aly Cawn to the Subahship; doubtless, because he thought such a step necessary; the consequences however, from whatever cause, were unfortunate; but let us draw a veil over those distant transactions; let us consider only the present state of the politics and commerce; and let our whole attention be employed in establishing the Company's affairs upon a firm and lasting foundation: nor do I in the least despair of seeing this important business accomplished, since I have the peculiar happiness of finding myself assisted by a committe of known abilities and incorruptible integrity. If at any time we should happen to differ in opinion, we shall differ like gentlemen, with temper and cool reasoning. The minutes of our consultations will not, I trust, be prolonged by dissention, nor disgraced with the prejudice of faction; we will endeavour to be unanimous.

A very few days are elapsed since our arrival; and yet, if we consider what has already come to our knowledge, we cannot hesitate a moment upon the necessity of assuming the power that is in us of conducting, as a Select Committee, the affairs both civil and military of this settlement:

ment: what do we hear of, what do we ſee, but anarchy, confuſion, and what is worſe, an almoſt general corruption. To remedy, or at leaſt to prevent, theſe evils in future, is a duty incumbent upon this Committee, which we owe to that Company we have engaged to ſerve, and a duty which we owe to ourſelves, if the pleas of honour, reputation, and conſcience, are worthy your attention. Happy, I am ſure you would have been, as well as myſelf, had the late conduct of affairs been ſo irreproachable, as to have permitted them ſtill to continue in the hands of the Governor and Council; a very tranſient view, however, of what has paſſed ſince Meer Jaffier's death will convince us, that the great point of reformation we aim at cannot be attained through that channel.—The Committee therefore, in my opinion, muſt immediately act: a meaſure ſo neceſſary, that I conclude you can have no objection to it. For my own part, I will venture to aſſert, that the critical ſituation of the Company renders it abſolutely indiſpenſible, for the ſpeedy ſettling of their affairs, that the power ſhould be veſted in the hands of a few; and give me leave further to add, that, unleſs the ſpirit of their orders in that reſpect be purſued, it is but too evident, that the general [illegible] of the Proprietors, when they honoured me with their ſolicitation to accept of this government, will be baffled and delayed, if not totally eluded, by their ſervants.

To eſtabliſh a country government, to ſecure the commercial intereſt, and to perpetuate the revenues of the Company; to form the military and to amend the civil departments; theſe will be the objects of our ſerious attention. By this Committee I ſhall hope to ſee theſe important matters compleatly regulated, before I reſign the government; and you know that my intention is to remain in it no longer than my aſſiſtance may be thought neceſſary towards accompliſhing theſe great and ſalutary purpoſes.

I ſhall now only repeat what you have often heard me declare, That I totally diſclaim any emolument to myſelf; I will not add to my fortune one ſingle rupee, by the opportunities I might have as Governor; on the other hand, be aſſured that every advantage to others, conſiſtent with my idea of the Company's honour and intereſt, ſhall be promoted to the utmoſt of my power here, and of my influence at home.

To this letter from the Right Honourable the Preſident, Meſſrs. Sumner and Sykes agreed to deliver in an anſwer at the next meeting of the Committee.

After duly conſidering the Honourable Company's inſtructions, in their general letter of the 1ſt of June 1764, relative to the covenants; it is the opinion of the Committee they ought immediately to be executed in the form preſcribed, by ſuch members of the Council, and other ſervants of the Company, as have not already ſigned this obligation.

Agreed, That the abſtracts of ſuch proceedings of the Select Committee, as may be deemed of material conſequence, be tranſmitted to Brigadier General Carnac; and that the above oath, adminiſtered to the members of the Committee now preſent, be alſo tendered to him by the Company's ſenior ſervant on the ſpot.—Alſo, That we acquaint him of our having formed ourſelves into a Select Committee, agreeably to the Company's inſtructions, and require that he correſpond with us accordingly.

Agreed, That an office, with every neceſſary for the Secretary's department, be immediately provided.

Agreed alſo, That Mr. Verelſt be adviſed of the meeting of the Select Committee, and his immediate attendance required.

Having read a letter from General Carnac, under date the 21ſt of April, the Select Committee reſolve to write him an anſwer; the ſame to be entered after the proceedings.

CLIVE,
W. B. SUMNER.
7th May, 1765. FRANCIS SYKES.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir,

Agreeably to the inſtructions of the Honourable Company, ſpecified in ſeveral paragraphs of their general letter, we have this day aſſumed the powers of a Select Committee, with which we are veſted; and as a conſtant intercourſe with you, as a member of this Committee, will be expedient to the public ſervice, we expect you will favour us with a communication of every occurrence that may relate more immediately to this department.

Copies of the paragraphs referred to, and of the oath adminiſtered to the members of the Committee now preſent, will be tranſmitted to you; and it is our deſire that you receive the oath from the Company's ſervant on the ſpot, in order that our correſpondence may be without reſerve.

Your letter of the 21ſt of April, addreſſed to the Preſident and Council, is come to our hands; but, as we have not yet found leiſure to obtain ſufficient information reſpecting the

points you mention, we ſubmit the neceſſary meaſures to be purſued to your own diſcretion, ſenſible that your zeal for the public intereſt, and the honour of the Select Committe, will enable you to give entire ſatisfaction to,

Sir,

Fort William, the 7th May, 1765. Your moſt humble Servants,

Fort William, 11 May, 1765.

At a Select Committee;

PRESENT,

The right honourable Lord Clive, preſident,
W. B. Sumner, Eſq;
Francis Sykes, Eſq;

Read, approved, and ſigned the proceedings of the 7th inſtant.

The Select Committee, obſerving, with regret, the contempt ſhewn for the poſitive and repeated orders of the governor and council recalling free merchants reſiding up the country,

Reſolve, that the former orders on that head be now enforced; and letters diſpatched to the chiefs of the ſeveral Subordinates, requiring them, at the expiration of one month after notice given, to convey in ſafety to Calcutta all who refuſe to comply with a meaſure ſo ſalutary to the Company, and neceſſary to the peace and good order of the country.

Being informed alſo that a great number of Europeans, Stragglers from ſhips, and others, who have no claim from indentures to any ſhare of the Company's countenance or protection, are variouſly employed up the country, and diſperſed all over the nabob's dominions, to the great prejudice of the Company, and moleſtation of the nabob;

Reſolved, they be immediately ſecured, and brought to Calcutta.

The Committee finding ſome difficulty in procuring an exact account of the names of ſuch Europeans;

Agreed, that the chiefs of the ſubordinate factories be made acquainted with the reſolutions of the Committee, and required to tranſmit, without delay, the moſt accurate liſts in their power of all Europeans not immediately in the Company's ſervice, who reſide in or about their reſpective diſtricts.

The ſecretary repreſenting that another aſſiſtant will occaſionally be wanted for the diſpatch of buſineſs;

Agreed, that Mr. William Wynne be employed as a monthly writer, after taking the oath of ſecrecy.

Meſſieurs Sumner and Sykes delivered in their anſwer to the preſident's letter, entered in the proceedings of the 7th Inſtant.

Ordered, It be entered.

Agreed, we acquaint General Carnac of the ſeveral detachments on their way to Patna, either to join him, or to form an army of obſervation, as circumſtances may require; and that we deſire he will not ſuffer the public diſpatches to be retarded by private letters.

Ordered, the ſame be entered after the proceedings.

CLIVE.
W. B. SUMNER.
FRAS SYKES.

11th May, 1765.

To the right honourable Robert Lord Clive, preſident of the Select Committee.

My Lord,

The ſituation of the Company's affairs, which have been deſcribed, and the meaſures propoſed by your Lordſhip for retrieving them, are perfectly agreeable to our ſentiments: We are ſenſible of the difficulty of eſtabliſhing order and tranquillity, where anarchy and confuſion have ſo long prevailed; but the experience we have of your Lordſhips great abilities, the ſteadineſs with which we have ſeen you encounter danger and difficulty, and the regard we are ſenſible you have for your own honour, and the intereſt of the Company, encourage us to hope for the moſt fortunate iſſue to the proceedings of the Select Committee. The ſentiments which your Lordſhip is pleaſed to entertain of our attachment to you, and to the intereſt of our employers are juſt; we will, my Lord, expreſs ourſelves with freedom on every ſubject that regards the public; but we can never be wanting in temper and decency, where we entertain ſo much reſpect. We are urged, my Lord, by the moſt powerful motives to that unanimity which you recommend. The preſent unhappy ſituation of the Company's affairs ariſes more from the diſſentions, than the incapacity, of thoſe gentlemen into whoſe hands your Lordſhip reſigned the government; it will be our ambition to approve ourſelves deſerving of the truſt repoſed in us by the Company, to aſſiſt your Lordſhip with our utmoſt abilities, to fulfil the hopes conceived from your prudence and capacity, and to enable you to return, as you ardently wiſh, to your native country, with the ſatisfaction of having baffled the malice of faction, rendered commerce flouriſhing, and peace permanent, and the

peculiar

peculiar honour of raiſing the Company's affairs in Bengal a ſecond time, from that deſperate ſtate into which they were ſunk, through the luxury and corruption that prevailed among their ſervants

We have the honour to be,
my Lord,
your Lordſhip's
moſt obedient and
moſt humble ſervants.

Fort William,
the 8th May 1765.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir,

Since we wrote to you on the 7th inſtant, we are adviſed by private letters, that Nudjuf Cawn has ſurrendered himſelf to the Marattoes; which advices are confirmed in a letter dated the 1ſt inſtant, from the chief at Benaras: We wiſh that intelligence of ſuch conſequence had been communicated by yourſelf, but we imagine your ſilence on this head may be owing to your particular ſituation, which will not admit of procuring any certain information.

It is the requeſt of the Select Committee, that henceforward all advices of any conſequence, which come to your knowlege, may be ſent alone, and not retarded with private letters; ſince it has frequently happened, by this means, that matters of the laſt importance have been known by every inhabitant of Calcutta before they reached the board.

The detachment lately ſent under Captain Muir, that under Major Champion, and theſe troops, were under orders to march from Ghyratty, will form a body of ſix hundred men, rank and file: With theſe different reinforcements we imagine you will be able to form a ſecond army, which may be ſtationed either at Patna, or on the Carumnaſſa, as you will think expedient.

Our reaſons for mentioning this, proceed from our apprehenſions, leſt a part of the enemy's numerous army ſhould invade the province of Bahar, which would reduce you to the neceſſity, either of retreating or detaching; both of which we would, if poſſible, avoid in our preſent circumſtances.

We hope you have formed ſufficient magazines of proviſions to enable you to keep Shujah Dowla at bay, until the rains are well ſet in; ſhould there be a deficiency of theſe, the conſequence is eaſily foreſeen; for as to his making an impreſſion on ſo formidable an army as you now command, we are under no apprehenſions.

The field officers, and others on duty, are under orders for marching up the country; and ſhould a ſeparate corps be judged neceſſary, Colonel Smith, and the field officers under him, will of courſe have the command; the reſt will join you with all poſſible expedition. However, as we can entertain no doubt of your zeal for the ſervice, we will leave it to your prudence and diſcretion to act as circumſtances may require, ſince we at this diſtance cannot poſſibly be judges of the exigence of affairs.

We are,
Sir,
your moſt humble ſervants.

Fort William,
the 11th May 1765.

1ſt June, 1765.

At a Select Committee;
PRESENT,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident,
W. B. Sumner,
Harry Verelſt,
Francis Sykes, Eſquires.

Read, approved, and ſigned, the proceedings of the 11th ultimo. The oath of ſecrecy being adminiſtered to Mr. Verelſt, that gentleman took his ſeat at the Committee, agreeable to the honourable Company's appointment.

His excellency the Nabob having, immediately on his arrival in Calcutta, and previous to any enquiries into his ſituation, delivered a letter to the right honourable the preſident, addreſſed to his Lordſhip, and the gentlemen of the Committee;

Agreed, that a tranſlation of the above letter be read, and the ſame entered after the proceedings.

The facts advanced in this letter, and other circumſtances which have this day appeared before them, being maturely weighed and conſidered, the Committee are of opinion, that Mahomed Reza Cawn, ſince the death of the late Nabob, has diſtributed among certain perſons near twenty Lacks of Rupees;

And that it is incumbent upon them to diſcover to whom ſuch ſums have been paid, and for what conſideration, in order that the moſt effectual meaſures may be purſued, to remedy for the preſent, and to prevent for the future, any dangerous conſequences which may have ariſen,

ariſen, or which may ariſe, not only to the country government, but likewiſe to the company, from ſuch practices.

Since our laſt meeting, we have received ſix letters from General Carnac, dated the 28th and 30th of April, the 2d, 3d, 7th, and 14th ult. The firſt acquainting us, that, in conſequence of advice that Suja Dowla, with Caz Dyn Cawn, was on his way to Korah, to join Mulhar, who is there with the Morattoes, he had croſſed the Ganges; likewiſe, that Captain Graham had had a ſmart ſkirmiſh with a diſſaffected Zemyndar, wherein the latter, with a conſiderable number of his men, was killed; and that we had ſuſtained a material loſs, in one Tarbeg, Leader of our few Perſian Horſe, who died of his wounds. The ſecond informs us, that Sir Robert Fletcher had left under an arreſt, at Illahabad, Captains William Smyth and M'Kenzie, and Lieutenant Harpur; and incloſes copies of the charges delivered in againſt them; further, that unleſs the enemy fall back, we may expect ſoon to hear of a battle. The third is found to contain an account of Nudjuf Cawn's return, with 600 or 700 horſe, and the greateſt part of the two companies of Seapoys that went with him, together with the General's ſentiments thereon. The fourth adviſes us of his having routed the enemy; and the fifth of his having removed the army to Jajaman, on the banks of the Ganges, on account of intelligence received, that Sujah Dowlah and the Morattoes had ſeparated; that the latter were croſſing the Jumna; and that Sujah Dowlah was returning to Triernuchabad, the Capital of Akinud (Chan's Bunguſh) poſſeſſions. The ſixth contains a particular reply to a letter addreſſed to him, dated the 8th of April, and incloſes a letter from his majeſty.

Received a Letter from Mr. Marriot, dated the 1ſt May, adviſing, that Nudjuf Cawn had ſurrendered to the morattoes, and that Sir Robert Fletcher had gained the banks of the Ganges; alſo, that he had deferred his propoſed journey to Illahabad, as Captain Dow expected that place would in a few days be inveſted by the enemy.

To the above-mentioned letter the ſecretary was ordered to reply, requeſting that Mr. Marriott would in future tranſmit the earlieſt advices in his power.

Received a letter from Fort St. George, dated the 20th, adviſing of their being obliged to land 48 recruits from the Kent, in order to do duty at their garriſons, which have been drained to oppoſe the approach of Nizun Aly, who had already entered the province of Dalmarchery.

Received a letter from Dacca, dated the 30th ult. acknowledging the receipt of our orders of the 15th of May, for recalling European agents, and promiſing all due obedience thereto. And

Another from Mr. Hugh Watts, reſident at Midnapoor, to the ſame effect.

Colonel Smith ſends in a letter, acquainting us that he is prevented from ſetting out for Patna as ſoon as he intended by an unfortunate accident (a very ſevere fall from his horſe) which obliges him to keep his chamber.

Received a letter from the chiefs and Council at Benaras, wherein they acknowledge to have received our ſecretery's letter of the 12th inſt. to Mr. Marriot; and inform us, that, for two days paſt, no advices had been received from camp; that Captain Galliez had a ſlight ſkirmiſh; and that his majeſty had marched from Illahabad, to receive the ſubmiſſions of ſeveral Rouhillah Chiefs, who are willing to acknowledge him.

The following letters were likewiſe diſpatched by the Committee ſince their laſt meeting.

On the 14th ult. we wrote to General Carnac, acknowledging the receipt of his letters of the 28th and 30th April, commending his diligence in effecting a Junction with Sir Robert Fletcher, under ſuch difficult circumſtances; and adviſing, that the ſelect Committee poſtponed any reſolution in reſpect to Captain M'Pherſon's promotion till further enquiry, and ſubmitted Captain Smyth's conduct to the judgment of a court martial.

On the 15th ult. orders were diſpatched to the ſubordinates to recall all free merchants.

On the 18th ult. a letter was diſpatched to General Carnac, in anſwer to his of the 3d; congratulating him on his ſucceſs over the enemy, and adviſing him of the ſtrong reinforcements on their way to join him.

On the 24th ult. orders were iſſued for Colonel Smyth to take the command of the detachments proceeding to Patna, where he was to be governed by General Carnac's inſtructions.

Colonel Smyth having ſent in a letter, acquainting the Committee, that he was indiſpoſed, in conſequence of a fall from his horſe, orders were iſſued the 29th ult. to Sir Robert Barker to ſucceed to the command of the detachments till Colonel Smith's recovery.

On the 30th ult. General Carnac's letters of the 2d and 14th were anſwered, the Aſperity of his ſtile to the Board conſiderd, and directions given to take no reſolutions reſpecting Nudjuf Cawn, till Lord Clive's arrival in camp.

CLIVE,
WM. B. SUMNER,
H. VERELST,
FRANS. SYKES,

Tran-

APPENDIX, No. 48.

Tranſlation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nabob Najim-o-Doulah to the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident, &c.

Gentlemen of the ſelect Committee,

The Situation which I am now in will not permit me to acquaint you with all the circumſtances which have happened; but I will make part thereof known to you, which is as follows:

My father, leaving Calcutta, arrived at Moorſhedabad, where he continued in perfect health for ſome time; after which he fell ſick, and finding his diſorder increaſing every day, and growing irrecoverable, he delivered me a paper of advice, and on the 7th day of Shawbun, he was plaſed to deliver to me the Kelaut received from the king, and ſeveral other preſents. He recommended Mah Rajah Nundcomar to my notice; and ordered him to ſend for Mr. Middleton, and the other Engliſh gentlemen, Mahomed Irrick Cawn, &c. friends, and all the ſervants belonging to the Nijamut (or Government) and before them to ſet Nabob Najim-o-Dowlah Bahadre in his place, and on the Nizamud Muſſnaud; and to order the people in general to give Nuzers of congratulation, and alſo to make them ſtrictly know that they muſt obey Nabob Najim-o-Dowlah in every reſpect as they did him, and be always ready at his command. According to the above orders of my deceaſed father, the above named Mah Rajah has fully performed; and I myſelf being willing and deſirous to execute the buſineſs laid to my truſt. On the 14th of the aforeſaid Month my father departed this life; after the uſual ſolemnization of his funeral, I have comforted and enlivened the people in general, and began to manage the affairs, and ordered a proclamation to be made thoughout the city, and Meſſrs. Middleton and Grey, and all the Nizamut ſervants, came and preſented Nuzers.

Through the will of God, all the buſineſs is carried on in the ſame good manner as before.

Six days afterwards Mr. Middleton came and acquainted me, that two of the counſellors were coming up from Culcutta for my comfort. This deputation I certainly thought was coming for my benefit and welfare: the day Meſſrs. Jonſtone and Leyceſter arrived at Coſſimbuzar, I ſent Mah Rajah Nundcomar Bahadre to meet them. Mr. Johnſtone was ſomewhat diſpleaſed with the ſaid Mah Rajah before, about the Pergunnah Tumalook, therefore his meeting theſe gentlemen was not agreeable to Mr. Johnſtone.—The next day the above gentlemen, &c. came to me; I was confident that theſe my friends and well wiſhers would have done me the compliments of condolence, and comfort me; but they did not to me the leaſt thing of this kind: inſtead whereof, they began to incumber me with many troubleſome things, and at the ſame time they ſent out all the people which were preſent, together with my brother Nabob Syfud Dowlah, and then they told me to ſend for Mahomed Reza Cawn from Dacca, and ſet him as Naib of the Nizamut. This troubled me much; and they told me alſo, that till Meer Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived from Dacca, and till he was ſet up as Naib of the Nizamut, I muſt not ſit in the Dewan Connah, and that I muſt live in the ſame place where I was, and put a ſtop to all public buſineſs.

The abovenamed Reza Cawn has had long ago evil intentions on the Nizamut; my father, therefore deemed him always as his enemy; and beſides there is a large ſum of money due from him to the Sircar. For theſe reaſons I thought proper not to acquieſce to any of the above propoſals which were made to me. I told them to peruſe the paper of advice of my deceaſed father and ſee how it directs, and which I ſhall readily follow. In anſwer to this, they replied, that your paper of Advice was of no force or virtue; and every thing muſt be done as we think proper.

In this manner they have vexed me, by ſitting almoſt every day from the firſt of their arrival to their departure.

They preſented me with a paper, and requeſted I would ſign it. This paper was that which they brought with them, and inſiſted on me to comply with their requeſt. I ſent for Meer Mahomed Irrick Cawn, Mah Rajah Nundcomar Bahadre, &c.; the firſt acquainted the gentlemen, that whatever paper they wanted to be ſigned, they would have no difficulty in it; at the ſame time it was proper for all of them to peruſe it firſt: Meſſrs Johnſtone and Leyceſter being much diſpleaſed at this, aſked in a very angry manner, who they were that wanted to peruſe the paper? after this Mounſhy Sudoler Oo Dy, who was near my preſence, told me to bring the former treaty, and compare that with this, and then to ſign it.

At this Mr. Johnſtone turned out the Mounſhy; and they told me, that in if caſe I did not ſet up Mahomed Reza Cawn in his Naibſhip, and immediately ſign the paper, I ſhould have no great chance of being in the poſſeſſion of the Subadarry, and then I ſhould be extremely ſorry for it. When I ſaw him preſſing me ſo eagerly, and in an unfriendly manner, I thought proper to ſign and deliver the paper to them, and they carried it away.

After this Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived, and ſat as Naib. He, for the better ſecuring his Naibſhip, above twenty laaks of rupees (in money and goods) out of my treaſury, has diſtributed among ſuch people as he thought proper, and this without my knowlege. Beſides, there is a balance due from the abovementioned Cawn of about 20 laaks of rupees on account of Dacca Syllat Roſhanabad, of which he does not chuſe to pay a ſingle coury. The above ſaid Mahomed Reza Cawn made Mr. Johnſtone his protector, and Mr. Leyceſter his Vakeel,

and made Rajah Dullubram his fellow partner, and took from the Mounſhees, Mochulca papers under their hands: he keeps my ſeal under his own ſeal, and there is nothing to be done with my will or order. Titles, employments, kelauts, elephants, horſes, and jewels, are granted and diſtributed to others as he pleaſes.

Mah Rajah Nundcomar, my intimate well-wiſher, when he has occaſion to aſk any queſtion, they anſwer him in the Negative, and with this diſpleaſure, while this man continues in the ſervice, they cannot impoſe upon me any extraordinary charges. They, for the ſake of their own profits, have cenſured him with an old accuſation, which was long ago ſtrictly examined by General Carnac, who acquitted him of it; and now they malicioufly accuſe him again; and by this means they ſent him down to Calcutta with a guard of ſeapoys.

There is a balance due to the Sircar, from the Selladars, of Fifteen Laaks of rupees, and now new employments are granted to them, and the lands divided into ſeveral diviſions.

Calyſha, Jagheer, &c. rents were duly collected all the time, while the abovenamed Mah Rajah had the management. They have diſpoſed of the preſent year's rents and puynos as they pleaſed. When I intended going down to Calcutta, I was much diſtreſſed for money for paying my ſervants wages, and other current expences.

Mr. Johnſtone's bad treatment to me after my father's death, and Mahomed Reza Cawn's ſtation, are to me as if I was day and night in a flame; but the news that his lordſhip was coming to this place has releived me of my Anxieties. At laſt God Almighty was pleaſed to haſten his lordſhip's arrival at this place: this has put into me freſh life and vigour. Now I beg your lordſhip, &c. as my protector and ſincere friend, to put my affairs, which were ruined by theſe people, on a proper footing, as they were in my father's time. In doing this I ſhall think myſelf happy.

N. B. The following lines are writen in the nabob's own hand.

Gentlemen,

I have wrote my ſentiments in the above lines as brief as poſſible, and beg you will hear my Petition,

Fort William, the 5th June 1765.

At a Select Committee;

PRESENT

The Right honourable Lord Clive, Preſident,
W. B. Sumner,
Harry Verelſt,
Francis Sykes, Eſquires.

Read, approved, and ſigned the proceedings of the 1ſt inſtant.

Taking into conſideration the many attempts which have been made to deſtroy the unanimity and corrupt the Integrity of the members of the Committee, both ſeperately and jointly, by the nabob, through Nundcomar's influence, and other ill diſpoſed perſons who were admitted into his preſence;

Reſolved, that all intercourſe with the nabob, his miniſters, and country powers, be maintained, and conducted by the right honourable the preſident, as the moſt effectual method to convince thoſe ill diſpoſed perſons, that no motives of private advantage, no deſire of increaſing their fortunes, can ever ſeduce the members of this board from the duty they owe to themſelves, the confidence they repoſe in each other, or the ſteady reſolution they have formed to purſue every method that tends to promote the Company's intereſt, and the peace, proſperity, and happineſs of the country. And the preſident obſerving how neceſſary it will become, for the ſecurity of his own reputation, and the rights of the Committee, that all his tranſactions with the nabob, &c. ſhould be confirmed with the ſanction of this board;

Agreed, That his lordſhip be required to lay his correſpondence, from time to time, before the Committee, and to communicate to them every meaſure of importance before it be carried into execution.

Several papers, written in the Perſian language, being offered to the conſideration of the Committee;

Agreed, that Mr. George Van Sittart be employed to tranſlate them into Engliſh, after taking the following oath of ſecrecy:

"I. A. B. do ſwear to be true and faithful to the truſt repoſed in me by the Select Com-
"mittee, and to reveal to no perſon whatever, ſuch parts of the proceedings of that depart-
"ment as ſhall be communicated to me."

Received a letter, dated the 13th ult. from Mr. William Maltby, requeſting we will grant him a further indulgence of time, than that ſpecified in the order for recalling free merchants.

Agreed, that four months be allowed him, from the 21ſt inſtant; and that the ſecretary acquaint him with this our reſolution.

Received a letter from the preſident and council at Bombay dated the 13th April, congratulating us on our ſucceſs againſt Sujah Dowlah, and requeſting their detachment may be ſent back immediately.

Agreed

Agreed, We write in anſwer, that our preſent circumſtances will not poſſibly admit of our complying with their requeſt.

Received a letter from the chief and council at Benaras, dated the 25th ult. acquainting us of the motions and diſpoſition of the army.

CLIVE,
WM. B. SUMNER,
H. VERELST,
FRAN SYKES.

Fort William, 6th June, 1765.

At a Select Committee;

PRESENT,

The Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident,
W. B. Sumner,
Harry Verelſt,
Francis Sykes, Eſquires.

Read, approved, and ſigned the proceedings of yeſterday.

In conſequence of a minute entered in our proceedings of the 1ſt inſtant, and ſince laid before the council, we have made the enquiries therein ſpecified, and received the following atteſted accounts from Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seat.

Agreed, the above mentioned accounts be entered after the proceedings of this day.

Agreed likewiſe, that a council be called by the right honourable the preſident, in order to lay before the board evidences of ſo much conſequence; and that Mr. Johnſtone's preſence be requeſted.

The Select Committee think it neceſſary to obſerve that the following circumſtance might be added, "When the gentlemen demanded an acknowlegement from me, I aſked, Is not this "to be a general affair, and are not the other gentlemen to have a ſhare? &c." To which they replied, "No, this muſt be for us: Let them look to themſelves."

Received a letter from General Carnac, dated the 21ſt ultimo, adviſing that he had entered the province of agra, after ſeveral fatiguing marches.

Received a letter from Allamabad, dated the 28th ultimo, and another from Patna of the 29th, in anſwer to our orders for recalling free merchants.

Colonel Smith ſends in a letter, acquainting us of his recovery, and reſolution to ſet out for Patna as ſoon as he can be ſuplied with boats.

CLIVE,
WM. B. SUMNER,
H. VERELST,
FRANCIS SYKES.

Narrative of Mahomed Reza Cawn.

The circumſtances of the gentlemen of council's application for preſents from the Nabob as hereafter ſpecified, are as follows: After his excellency had been ſeated on the Muſnud, the general of council firſt of all ſent a meſſage by Mootyram, and afterwards themſelves ſaid to me, the gentlemen who have aſſiſted former Nazims have obtained preſents; now that we have ſeated his excellency on the Muſnud, and rendered him ſervice, we hope that he will make preſents to us alſo: Do you repreſent this to his excellency: I anſwered, "Do you, gentlemen, yourſelves mention it." At length, as they were earneſt with me, and I perceived they would be offended at my refuſal, I repreſented it to his excellency in conformity to their deſire: His excellency ſaid to me, It muſt be done; do you make out a liſt, and bring it me: I replied, "Your excellency is the maſter; yourſelf determine upon whatever may be your pleaſure." Accordingly an account of the preſents for the gentlemen was made out before the Nabob's face, and given under his hand and Seal to Mr. Johnſtone, in the preſence of all the four gentlemen; after three or four days, Mr. Johnſtone carried this paper to the Nabob, and ſaid, "if your excellency has given this paper unwillingly, and contrary to your inclination, "we do not want it:" His excellency anſwered, "I have given it to you of my own pleaſure "and inclination:" After this converſation had paſſed, Mr. Johnſtone ſaid, "What ſhall we "do with a bare paper? Let orders be given to Mahomed Reza Cawn for the payment of the "money;" his excellency accordingly commanded me to pay the money agreeable to the paper: I made ſome days delay, and upon Mr. Johnſtone and the other gentlemen making again a demand upon me, I preſented the following Ferd—Sevaul (*a*) to his excellency "with "regard to giving the money for the gentlemen's preſents; whatſoever is your excellency's "pleaſure;" his excellency ſigned thereon, "let Mahomed Reza Cawn Bahadre pay it." Accordingly, from the 20th of Shevaul, of the 1178 year of the Hegyra, to the 10th (*b*) of Zecadal incluſive, 875,000 Rupees were given to nine gentlemen, 250,000 by four bills upon the Houſe of the Seets, the date of the payment whereof will appear from their books; and the remaning 625,000, in ready money from the treaſury; the date of the payment of which ſhall be particularly ſpecified upon the arrival of Jumma Kerch Papers from Moorſhadabad.

A true tranſlation.

6th June 1765. GEORGE VANSITTART, Perſian tranſlator.

(*a*) A Paper of Enquiry, Petition, or Repreſentation. (*b*) 12 April, 1765.

APPENDIX, No. 84.

Fort William, the 6th June, 1765.

Account of Presents from the Nabob.

	Received.	Due.	Total.
Mr. Spencer received, by a bill on the Seet's House, dated the 7* of Zecada of the 1178 year of the Hegyra —	100,000	100,000	200,000
Mr. Playdell received Dº Dº —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. Burdett received Dº Dº —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. Gray received Dº Dº —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. Johnstone received by Mootyram, in ready money from the Treasury, from the 20† Shevaul of the 1178th year of the Hegyra, to the 10th of Zecada, inclusive —	237,500		237,500
Mr. Middleton received, by Santyram Sing, his muttasud, in ready money from the Treasury, Dº date —	112,500		112,500
Mr. Senior received, by his man Moonshy Rambullub, in ready money from the Treasury, Dº date —	112,500		112,500
Mr. Leycester received Dº Dº Dº —	112,500		112,500
Mr. Johnstone's younger brother received, by Mootyram, in ready money from the Treasury, Dº date —	50,000		50,000
Mr. Cartier, by means of Mr. Johnstone, a bond was given to this purport, that representation should be made to the Nabob, and the money caused to be given —		100,000	100,000
Total	875,000	350,000	1,225,000

A true translation,
GEORGE VAN SITTART, Persian Translator.

* 28th April, 1765. † 12 April to 1 May, inclusive.

With regard to the presents which I made to the Gentlemen of Council, the state of the affairs is this: Mr. Johnstone sent me a message by Mootyram, as follows: Whereas you have been appointed his Excellency's Naib, it is proper that you make us some present from yourself. I represented my situation, that I would do what was in my power, but that I could not furnish any very great matter. In the end, the sum of 475,000 rupees was agreed upon, of which I have paid 225,000, and 250,000 remain due, according to the underwritten particulars.

Fort William, the 6th June, 1765.

Account of the Presents from Mahomed Reza Cawn.

	Received.	Due.	Total.
Mr. Johnstone received, by two bills on the House of Mootychund, at Burdwan, payable to Mootyram, dated the 13* of Rumzaun of the 6 year — 50,000			
Received, by a bill on the House of Juggut Seet, at Hoogly, payable to Mootyram, dated the 14th of Rumzaun — — 50,000			
	100,000	50,000	150,000
Mr. Leycester received a bill on Juggut Seet's House at Hoogly, payable to Mootyram, dated the 13th of Rumzaun of the 6th year — —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. Senior received, in ready money, from the 19th of Zeccada of the 6th year to the 25th Dº — —	50,000	50,000	100,000
Mr. Middleton — — —		100,000	100,000
Mr. Johnstone's younger brother received, by a bill on Oodychund's House, at Hoogly, payable to Mootyram, dated the 21 † of Rumzaun of the 6th year — —	25,000		25,000
Total for Mr. Johnstone and Co. —	225,000	250,000	475,000
Mr. Spencer. There was not any agreement made with him; but formerly, and now, I have given him presents according to the underwritten particulars; *viz.*			
In the time of the late Nabob, when I came to Moorshedabad about the affairs of Dacca, I sent from Moorshedabad 20,000			
From Dacca — — — 20,000			
After my appointment to the Neabut, I gave, by a bill on Juggut Seet's House, payable to Ramage Paul, dated the 12th of Rumzaun — 50,000			
	90,000		90,000
Total	315,000	250,000	565,000

A true translation,
GEORGE VAN SITTART, Persian Translator.

* 6 March, 1765. † 7 March, 1765.

PRESENTS received by the undermentioned Gentlemen from the Nabob Mahomed Reza Cawn, and Juggut Seat.

Names of the Gentlemen.	From whom presented.			Sums total presented.	How received.					Total Received.	Remaining to be paid.
	The Nabob	Mahomed Reza Cawn.	Juggut Seat.		By Bills on Juggut Seat.	By Bills on Mootychund at Muxadavad	By Bills on - - - at Dacca.	By Bills on Oodchund Bauboo.	In cash.		
Mr. Spencer	2,00,000	90,000	— — —	290,000	150,000	20,000	20,000	— — —	— — —	190,000	100,000
Mr. Playdell	1,00,000	— — —	— — —	100,000	50,000	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	50,000	50,000
Mr. Burdett	100,000	— — —	— — —	100,000	50,000	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	50,000	50,000
Mr. Gray	100,000	— — —	— — —	100,000	50,000	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	50,000	50,000
Mr. Johnstone	237,500	150,000	— — —	387,500	50,000	50,000	— — —	— — —	2,37,500	337,500	50,000
Mr. Senior	1,12,500	100,000	— — —	212,500	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1,62,500	162,500	50,000
Mr. Leycester	1,12,500	100,000	— — —	212,500	50,000	— — —	— — —	— — —	1,12,500	162,500	50,000
Mr. Middleton	1,12,500	100,000	— — —	212,500	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1,12,500	1,12,500	1,00,000
Mr. Johnstone's younger brother	50,000	25,000	10,000	85,000	— — —	— — —	— — —	25,000	60,000	85,000	— — —
Messieurs Johnstone, Leycester, Senior, and Middleton	— — —	— — —	1,15,000	1,15,000	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	40,000	40,000	75,000
Mr. Cartier	100,000	— — —	— — —	100,000	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	100,000
Totals	12,25,000	5,65,000	1,25,000	19,15,000	400,000	70,000	20,000	25,000	725,000	1240,000	675,000

APPENDIX, No. 84.

Narrative of Juggut Seet.

When Mr. Johnſtone, and the other gentlemen of council, went to Moorſhedabad, and applied themſelves to the regulation of the whole ſubadarry, they ſent me the following meſſage by Mootyram: "Make us ſome acknowledgment, and we will ſettle all your buſineſs according to your hearts deſire, otherwiſe we ſhall be diſpleaſed, and your buſineſs meet with no aſſiſtance; for you formerly made an acknowledgment to Lord Clive and other gentlemen." I informed them that Lord Clive never ſaid a word on this ſubject, and that I did not give him even a ſingle daum. They ſent me a meſſage in anſwer as follows: "You may not be acquainted with it, but your fathers made an acknowlegement; give us five laaks of Rupees." I anſwered, "Our fathers never did give Lord Clive a ſingle daum." They replied, "If you would wiſh to have your buſineſs go freely on, make us ſome acknowlegement." Being remedileſs, I conſented to give 125,000 Rupees, 50,000 immediately, and the reſt when I could collect in my debts from the country. The gentlemen agreed to this; and accordingly I ſent them 50,000 Rupees by my Muttaſuddies and Mootyram: In fine, there were none of my debts collected in when Mr. Johnſtone, *&c.* returned to Calcutta; and I alſo came to Calcutta to pay my reſpects to Lord Clive; ſo that thus the affair reſted." Inquiry having been made of me, I have written theſe particulars, in which there is by no means a word of untruth.

Written the 15th of Zeechidja of the 6th Year, 5th June, 1765.

A true tranſlation.
George Vanſittart
Perſian tranſlator.

Fort William the 7th June, 1765.
At a ſelect Committee,
PRESENT,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive Preſident.
W. B. Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, } Eſquires.

Read, approved, and ſigned, the proceedings of the 6th Inſtant.

Upon advice being received that certain bills ſpecified in Mahomed Reza Cawn's atteſted accounts, and theſe ſaid to be received, had been ſince offered back to the ſaid Mahomed Reza Cawn by one Buſſunt Roy, employed for that purpoſe by Mootyram the Phouzedar of Hoogly,

The Committe judging ſuch voluntary reſtitution to be of a very extraordinary nature, and ſuſpecting it was deſigned to ſcreen Mootyram from detection, and cover tranſactions with which it might highly concern the public to be acquainted,

Reſolved, that the ſaid Buſſunt Roy be ſeized, brought before the Committee, and ſworn to anſwer truly to ſuch queſtions as ſhall be propoſed to him.

Buſſunt Roy being ſworn before the Committee, depoſed as follows:

Q. Did you go this day to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and offer him back the obligations which he gave for the payment of money to ſeveral gentlemen?

A. They are not obligations, but bills.

Q. Did you carry the bills to M. R. C.?

A. I did.

Q. By whoſe order did you carry theſe bills.

A. By Mootyram's.

Q. At what time did you receive them from Mootyram?

A. At eight this morning.

Q. At what hour did you carry them to M. R. Cawn?

A. At eleven this day.

Q. Where did you receive the bills from Mootyram?

A. At his own houſe.

Q. What order did Mootyram give you when he delivered the bills?

A. To carry them to M. R. C. and nothing more.

Q. Did you ever carry the bills before M. R. Cawn?

A. No.

Q. What anſwer did M. R. Cawn make when you offered him the bills?

A. He was angry, would not receive them, and aſked why I brought them.

Q. Did you know if theſe bills were ever offered by any one elſe to Mahomed Reza Cawn?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you know on what account theſe bills were granted to Mootyram?

A. No I don't, having ſince that time been received into his ſervice.

Q. Did you return from M. R. Cawn's to Mootyram; and what did he ſay to you?

A. I

A. I heard he was under a guard, and no one permitted to ſpeak to him; and I have not ſeen him ſince.

The bills being produced, appear to be drawn for the following ſums, and all in favour of Mootyram.

No. I. A bill for A. Rs. 25,000, drawn by Myaram Dyaram, at Moorſhedabad, on Jugjeun Daſs Gain Chund, at Hoogly, in favour of Mootyrum, dated the 19th cheit (March) payable at ten days after ſight.

No. II. For A. Rs. 50,000, dated the 3d cheit.

No. III. For A. Rs. 50,001, dated the 4th cheit.

Each drawn on Seet Manan Chund and Anan Chund at Moorſhedabad, on Jugget Seet Futter Chund, and Seet Anan Chund at Hoogly, in favour of Mootyram, both payable at 10 days ſight.

No. IV. } Each for Sunat Rupees 25,000, dated the 30th cheit, drawn by Mutty Chund Joy
No. V. } Chund at Moorſhedabad, on Jerderdaſs at Burdwan, in favour of Mootyram, payable at 10 days after ſight.

Total per the above bills, Rupees Arcot and Sunat 175,001.

Clive.
W. B. Sumner.
Verelſt.
Fra. Sykes.

Fort William the 8th June, 1765.
At a ſelect Committee,
PRESENT,

The Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident,
W. B. Sumner, }
Harry Verelſt, } Eſquires.
Francis Sykes, }

Read, approved, and ſigned the proceedings of the 7th Inſt.

It appearing from the evidences of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Jugget Seet, and alſo from the depoſition of Buſſunt Roy, that Mootyram Phouzedar of Hoogly, was deeply concerned in all the pecuniary tranſactions ſpecified in thoſe evidences, bills to great amount having been drawn in his favour:

The Committee reſolve that he be ſent for, ſworn, and examined in their preſence, and alſo that he be confronted by Mahomed Reza Cawn and Jugget Seet, in order that it may appear with certainty whether the ſaid Mootyram was authoriſed to demand money of the Seets, or whether he preſumed to proſtitute the characters of the Gentlemen of the deputation, by making uſe of their names without the ſanction of their expreſs authority.

The depoſition of Mootyram Phouzedar, of Hoogly.

Q. Did you go to Jugget Seet to Demand money?

A. I did.

Q. Who ſent you to Jugget ſeet?

A. Mahomed Reza Cawn ſent Iſmeal Ally Cawn with me to Juggut Seet.

Q. Who ſent you to Mahomed Reza Cawn?

A. Mr. Johnſtone.

Q. What Meſſage did you carry from Mr. Johnſtone to Mahomed Reza Cawn?

A. I was ordered to deſire him to aſk the Seets for preſents.

Q. Did any of the other gentlemen join in this meſſage to Mahomed Reza Cawn?

A. I had my order from Mr. Johnſtone only.

Q. Did Mr. Johnſtone ſend you in his own name, or in that of the deputation?

A. He ſent me in his own, and in the names of Meſſrs. Senior, Leyceſter, and Middleton.

Q. What paſſed when you went to Mahomed Reza Cawn; did you aſk him for money from the Seets?

A. I did, I aſked him for three Laaks.

Q. What day did you go to M. R. Cawn?

A. I cannot ſay for certain, but the affair was about twenty days in ſettling.

Q. Can't you determine within a day or two of the time you firſt mention?

A. I cannot, but it was about the twenty firſt of Rumzaun.

Q. What anſwer had you from Mahomed Reza Cawn when you deſired he would make this demand on the Seets?

A. He firſt ſaid, "very well, I'll try what I can do;" but on my application, he ſaid, "It "was very improper to aſk money of the Seets,—it will get me a bad name."

Q. Do you confeſs the contents of Juggut Seet's letter to be true

A. I do.

Q. What

Q. What did you ſay to Mahomed Reza Cawn about ſtopping the buſineſs of the Seets, unleſs they complied with the demand?

A. I did tell him that the gentlemen would protect their buſineſs, if they would make a preſent; if not, the buſineſs of the Seets would meet with no protection or countenance.

Q. You ſay that Iſmeal Ally Cawn was ſent with you to the Seets; what paſſed there?

A. When Iſmeal Ally Cawn demanded three Laaks of Rupees for the gentlemen, Juggut Seet anſwered, "If the gentlemen will be ſatisfied with rings, jewels, and ſuch preſents, from ten to twenty-five thouſand rupees, I will comply." But on Iſmeal Ally Cawn's preſſing him farther, he agreed to give 50,000, which was not accepted: And then Juggut Seet ſaid, well, I will ſpeak to Mahomed Reza Cawn myſelf."

Q. Was you preſent at all this converſation?

A. I was, but did not ſpeak.

Q. Do you know how the affair was ſettled?

A. Yes, I heard that Juggut Seet afterwards conſented to give 75,000 Rupees, then he roſe to a laak, and at laſt conſented to give 125,000.—This I heard from Mahomed Reza Cawn.

Juggut Seet being preſent at this examination, was aſked, "If he ever communicated the "converſation between him and Mootyram, as ſet forth in his letter?" He anſwered, "yes, "to my brother, to Brigauloul my Mounſhy, and to Chickimull my Vakeel."

Q. Did you demand the money of the Seets in your own name, or on the gentlemen's account?

A. I demanded it on account of the gentlemen ſurely, and thoſe that ſent me.

Q. When the money was ſent by Juggut Seet to M. R. Cawn's houſe, did he forward it immediately to Mr. Johnſtone at Mootyjill in a Stackeree, and was Mr. Johnſtone angry?

A. He did forward it to Mootyjill in a Stackeree, with which Mr. Johnſtone was angry, and ſaid, why was not the money given to Mootyram, or ſent more privately.

Q. You are charged by Juggut Seet with having viſited him thrice, once when he was alone, once in preſence of Iſmael Ally Cawn, and once when his brother was with him.———Is this true?

A. It is true, I did viſit him thrice.

Q. Had you any converſation with him about the demand in any of theſe viſits?

A. I had I muſt confeſs. At the time I viſited Juggut Seet when he was alone, he told me he would agree to give 75,000 Rupees to the gentlemen, and deſired I would repreſent to them that his circumſtances would not afford more, which I promiſed to do.

Q. Did you go to Mahomed Reza Cawn and offer to return ſome bills, deſiring he would take them until all things were ſettled; and he was part of the way on his return from Calcutta, ſaying, you would meet him at Hoogly, and there take their amount?

A. I did. I went by Mr. Johnſtone's order about 12 or 14 days ago, and tendered the bills to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and deſired he would take them, and told him that as ſoon as diſputes were over, I would receive their amounts if he then conſented to pay; but Mahomed Reza Cawn refuſed taking the bills.

Q. What Number of bills, and to what amount did you offer back?

A. Five bills drawn in my own favour, amounting to 175,001 Rupees.

Q. What is become of thoſe bills?

A. I ſent them yeſterday morning by Buſſunt Roy to Mahomed Reza Cawn.

Q. On whoſe account did you receive thoſe bills?

A. They were the amount of a preſent to be paid by Mahomed Reza Cawn to Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Leyceſter, and to Mr. Johnſtone's younger brother.

Q. Do you know how much for each of the gentlemen?

A. For Mr. Johnſtone 105,001, Rupees, for Mr. Leyceſter 50,000, and for Mr. Johnſtone's brother 20,000 Rupees.

Q. What money have the gentlemen received from the Nabob?

A. Mahomed Reza Cawn had the management of that buſineſs.

Q. To what amount might have come through your hands of the Nabob's money?

A. Mr. Johnſtone firſt received through my hands from the Nabob 137,500 Rupees, and afterwards a Laak more, making 237,500 Rupees, beſides which, his brother received afterwards 50,000 Rupees of the Nabob, but what was paid to the other gentlemen I know not, their own Mutſuddies tranſacting that buſineſs for them.

Q. Do you know whether theſe demands were the act of Mr. Johnſtone ſingly, or whether they proceeded from the deputation jointly?

A. I received my orders from Mr Johnſtone only.

T. Was it of your own accord, or was you ordered to tell Mahomed Reza Cawn, that if the Seets complied with their demand, their buſineſs ſhould be protected, otherwiſe it would have no countenance or encouragement?

A. I was ordered by Mr. Jonhſtone.

M. Is this evidence which you give true in every circumſtance according to the beſt of your Judgment?

A. It

A. It is, and I never will retract it; but if there ſhould appear any thing contradictory or unſatisfactory at firſt, it was owing to the confuſion I was under when brought before this company.

Clive.
W. B. Sumner.
H. Verelſt,
Fra. Sykes

11th June 1765. At a Select Committee,
PRESENT,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident.
Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, } Eſquires.
Mr. Sumner indiſpoſed.

Read, approved, and ſigned, the Proceedings of the 8th Inſtant.

Letters from General Carnac of the 26th and 27th ultimo, adviſing that Sujah Dolwah, as his laſt reſource, had thrown himſelf upon our generoſity, and was now actually in camp, ready to receive ſuch terms of peace as we ſhall preſcribe; and this appearing to the Committee a favourable opportunity for eſtabliſhing the tranquillity of the country on a permanent foundation, by demanding no other conditions than ſuch as ſhall appear to be for the mutual intereſt of the contracting parties, equitable in themſelves, and evidently calculated for the publick benefit;

Reſolved, That the general's letters be acknowledged, his ſentiments approved, and the following inſtructions ſent to him for ſettling preliminary articles with Sujah Dowlah, which he is not to conclude definitively until Lord Clive's arrival in camp.

Bulwant Sing to be ſecured in the poſſeſſion of his country, Nudjuff Cawn to be reſtored to the poſſeſſion of his former dominions, and all thoſe who either joined or aſſiſted the Engliſh to be encouraged, the king's honour, ſafety, and ſubſiſtence to be conſulted; Coſſim Ally, Sumroo, and the deſerters to be demanded or put to death by Sujah Dowla himſelf; but this laſt article not to be conſidered as eſſential, though obtaining it would be agreeable, it being the opinion of the Committee he ſhould be engaged to our intereſt by the ties of gratitude, and not by compulſion.—To acquaint the general that full powers will be given to Lord Clive, in conjunction with them, to ſettle every thing as they ſhall think proper and neceſſary to the ſtability of the intended peace, alſo to deſire he will uſe his influence to prevail on the Vizier to ſhorten Lord Clive's journey, and meet his lordſhip at Benaras, or at Patna.

Received a letter from general Carnac, dated the 22d ultimo, adviſing he had repulſed the enemy, and was returning to Jajeman to meet Sujah Dowlah, who had deſired an interview.

Ordered, The general's letters minuted in the former part of theſe proceedings, and alſo the Committee's anſwer, be entered.

Agreed, That the ſecretary ſend copies to Meſſrs. Senior and Middleton of the proceedings of the 1ſt, 5th, 6th, and 8th inſtant, requiring their immediate and explicit anſwers to ſuch particulars in the above-mentioned papers as relate to them.

Received a letter from the chief and council at Dacca, dated the 8th, ſetting forth the prejudice that muſt ariſe to the affairs of the gentlemen of the factory, ſhould the order for recalling free merchants be immediately enforced.

Agreed, that four months beyond the time limited in thoſe orders, be allowed to their ſeveral agents; and that we write them to this effect.

Clive.
H. Verelſt.
Fra. Sykes.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letters of the 7th, and 12th, and with one from the council under date the 6th, incloſing to me a copy of the paragraphs from the honourable Company's laſt general letter relative to the Committee, but the copy of the oath which I am to take, is not yet come to my hands.

I have the higheſt and moſt grateful ſenſe of the confidence you are pleaſed to repoſe in me, and beg leave to aſſure your, it will be ever my earneſt ſtudy and wiſh, to act in ſuch manner, as to merit your approbation.

I adviſed the board in a letter under date 28th ultimo, of Nudjuff Cawn's having joined Sujah Dowlah. It muſt frequently happen that particular news will reach Calcutta, previouſly to the advice thereof from me, as others write upon mere Hearſay and Report, whereas I cannot with propriety do ſo but in conſequence of certain information.

You may depend upon my punctually obſerving your directions, to ſend my letters alone, in caſe of any material advice; a rule which, to the beſt of my recollection, I have hitherto conſtantly obſerved.

I arrived here yeſterday, having left the army to follow in two diviſions by eaſy marches. The firſt diviſion I expected in to-morrow. I acquainted the board the 22d (a Duplicate of which adreſs will be diſpatched by this conveyance), with the reaſons of my being in ſuch a hurry to return, viz. on occaſion of a letter from Sujah Dowlah; the copy of the original, a tranſlation thereof, and the ſubſtance of my anſwer, your lordſhip, &c. will receive herewith. If we can make a friend of Sujah Dowlah, which I really believe we may, provided we uſe with moderation our ſucceſs, and do not urge him to deſpair, I am firmly of opinion that he, from the extreme regard in which he is held throughout the country, even in his preſent diſtreſs, will prove a much better ſecurity to our frontier than any one we can put in theſe dominions in his room: I beg to be favoured as ſoon as poſſible with your ſentiments on his head,

I am, with the greateſt reſpect,
My Lord, and Gentlemen,
your moſt humble ſervant
John Carnac.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident, and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

Hearing that Sujah Dowlah was drawing near, I ſent Captain Swinton with Rajah Shittabroy to meet him. He arrived in the evening on the oppoſite ſide of the river, and immediately croſſed it with his brother-in-law Salar Jung and a very few followers, in order to wait upon me. I received him with all poſſible marks of diſtinction, at which he expreſſed much ſatisfaction. He appears, however, a good deal dejected at his preſent condition, which muſt bear very hard upon him; and he muſt find himſelf without reſource; or being, as he undoubtedly is, the moſt conſiderable man in the empire, and of an uncommonly high ſpirit, he would not have ſubmitted to ſuch a condeſcenſion. It will, in my opinion, greatly add to the Engliſh name throughout the country, our behaving with generoſity towards a perſon who has all along bore a high reputation in Hindoſtan.

I am,
with the greateſt reſpect,
My Lord, and Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient Servant.
John Carnac.

Jajeman,
the 27th May, 1765,

A tranſlation of Sujah Dowlah's Letter to general Carnac, received the 19th May, 1765.

It is known all over the world, that the illuſtrious chiefs of the Engliſh nation are conſtant and unchangeable in their friendſhip, which my heart is fully perſuaded of. The late diſturbances were contrary to my inclinations; but it was ſo ordered by providence. I now ſee things in a proper light, and have a ſtrong deſire to come to you; and I am perſuaded you will treat me in a manner befitting your own honour. You have ſhewn great favours to others; when you become acquainted with me, you will ſee with your own eyes, and be thoroughly ſenſible of my attachment, from which I will never depart while I have life. I am this day, 26th of the moon, arrived at Bilgram: pleaſe God, in a very ſhort time I ſhall have the happineſs of a meeting with you. As for other particulars I refer you to Mouyr o Dowlah, and Rajah Shittabroy.

With his own hand.

My Friend,

I regard not wealth, nor the government of countries; your favour and friendſhip is all I deſire. Pleaſe God I will be with you very ſoon, when you will do for me what you think beſt.

General Carnac's Anſwer, the 24th May, 1765.

I have been favoured with your Letter, in which were ſome lines wrote with your own hand, declaring your intentions of coming to me; that you was arrived at Belgrim, and expect ſuch a reception as becomes a brave man to give; and that I will be ſenſible of the warmth and ſincerity of your friendſhip, after we become acquainted; and that you do not look for country nor wealth, but the friendſhip of the Engliſh nation; and that, pleaſe God, you will be very ſoon with me.

The Receipt of this letter gave me great pleaſure: You was before unacquainted with our cuſtoms and diſpoſitions; thanks be to God that you are now become ſenſible of the juſtice and upright intentions of the Engliſh. Now that you are pleaſed to come to me in a friendly manner, you may depend on the beſt reception in my power ſuitable to our cuſtoms; and I will not be deficient in forwarding whatever is reaſonable for your intereſt; and when your excellency ſhall ſhew a real attachment to the Engliſh, their friendſhip towards you in return will be

be made manifeſt to the whole World: You may with perfect confidence come here as to your own houſe, and to thoſe that wiſh your welfare; further particulars you will learn from Mouyr-o-Dowlah, and Shittabroy.

A true copy.

A. Swinton.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in chief of the Army.

SIR,

Your letters of the 26th and 27th ultimo afford us great pleaſure; the intelligence they convey is important, and the ſentiments you expreſs generous, and ſuch as we are determined to adopt. We join with you in opinion, that every appearance of inſult and violence to a perſon of Sujah Dowlah's character ought to be carefully avoided in the terms we demand. Among men of honour and ſentiment, a peace can only be permament where the advantages are reciprocal.

Lord Clive, who propoſes to ſet out for the army in four or five days, will be impowered, in conjunction with you, to ſettle every thing in whatever manner ſhall appear moſt conducive to the great object we have in view,—that of immediately reſtoring the publick tranquillity, and eſtabliſhing peace on a laſting and ſolid foundation. The honourable reception you propoſe giving the Vizier will put him into ſuch good humour with the Engliſh, that he probably may be prevailed on to ſhorten Lord Clive's journey, and meet his lordſhip at Benaras, or even at Patna.

In the mean time the ſettling preliminary articles, and adjuſting a plan of pacification with him, will greatly facilitate matters; but you muſt come to no final determination until his lordſhip's arrival.

The points we would chiefly recommend to your regard in ſketching theſe preliminaries are, that Bulwant Sing be pardoned, and ſecured in the poſſeſſion of his country, on the ſame terms as when he was under the government of Sujah Dowlah; that Nudjuff Cawn be alſo reſtored to the poſſeſſion of Korea, his country; and that all others who have joined, or afforded aſſiſtance to the Engliſh, meet with equal favour and encouragement. The king's honour muſt be conſulted, and his ſafety and ſubſiſtence ſecured where-ever he chuſes to reſide. Coſſim Ally and Sumroo we would be glad to have delivered into our hands, if Sujah Dowlah will do it voluntarily, or elſe put to death by himſelf; but if neither can be effected without diſguſting him, and thereby endangering the ſtability of the peace, it muſt be left to his own honour. In ſhort, we would rather bind them to us by the ties of gratitude, than by force and compulſion.

In money affairs we muſt appear generous and diſintereſted; and if you ſtipulate for any ſums to be paid, they ought to be on account of the company, who have ſome claim to an indemnification, and whoſe intereſt ought to be our principal object. In other particulars we rely on your own diſcretion and approved zeal for the good of the ſervice, being, with great eſteem,

Fort William,
the 10th June, 1765.

SIR,
Your moſt obedient,
and humble Servants.

P. S. We would further recommend, that you ſtipulate with Sujah Dowlah for the eſtabliſhment of factories, and an entire liberty of trade in every part of his dominions; but we mean not to ſupport this privilege by any military force, nor to introduce troops or garriſons into his country.

21ſt June, 1765. At a Select Committee,
PRESENT,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident,
W. B. Sumner,
Harry Verelſt,
Francis Sykes, Eſquires.

Read, approved, and ſigned, the proceedings of the 11th inſt.

Having peruſed a letter under date the 7th Inſtant, addreſſed to the ſelect Committee, from General Carnac, wherein he intimates his intention of ſpeedily concluding peace with Sujah Dowlah, and differs in ſome material particulars from the ſentiments of the ſelect Committee;

Agreed, That we immediately write to the general, repeating our inſtructions of the 10th inſtant, to enter into no definitive engagements before Lord Clive's arrival in camp: —And,

Ordered, That the general's letter, with the Committe's anſwer, be entered after theſe proceedings.

The ſeveral evidences, depoſitions, and letters, relative to the application of money iſſued from the Nabob's treaſury, ſince the death of Meer Jaffier, and of preſents from Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet, to Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Senior, Middleton, and Leyceſter; alſo the minutes

nutes and letters of thoſe gentlemen, as entered in the conſultations of the board, and in our proceedings, being duly weighed and conſidered;

The Select Committe are unanimouſly of the following opinions;

That Mr. Johnſtone has actually received the ſeveral ſums, in money and bills, ſpecified for his uſe in the general accounts of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet.

That he appears, from the evidences entered in our proceedings, agent and manager in obtaining and diſtributing the preſents, but unacquainted, we would willingly ſuppoſe, with the menaces uſed by Mootyram, in his name, to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet, in order to extort a ſum of money from the latter for the uſe of the Deputation;—and laſtly, That he is guilty of actual diſobedience to the Company's orders, in arraigning indecently, and refuſing poſitively, to acknowledge the authority wherewith the Select Committee are inveſted by the Honourable the Court of Directors, and by urging their uſurped powers in excuſe for declining any reply to charges that ſo deeply affect his character.

That Mr. Senior has received all the money ſpecified for his uſe in the evidences already mentioned, and alſo the further ſum of 50,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn on his own account; but that he neither authoriſed the meſſages delivered by Mootyram, nor was active in obtaining or diſtributing the preſents.

That Mr. Middleton has received preſents from the Nabob and Juggut Seet only, firmly believing them to be voluntary, and that he always intended to refuſe the preſent deſigned him by Mahomed Reza Cawn.

That Mr. Leyceſter has received the ſeveral ſums affixed to his name in the above-mentioned accounts, but that he neither did nor intended to receive the bills lodged with Mootyram for his uſe, nor was any way concerned in the menaces thrown out by that perſon to Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet;—all which is further confirmed by the oath which he voluntarily took before the whole board.

That Meſſrs. Playdell, Burdett, and Gray, have each received 50,000 rupees from the Nabob, in the full perſuaſion that the ſame was a free gift to the gentlemen who then compoſed the board, without any application on their parts, or conſideration on the Nabob's, for ſervices performed.

That Mr. Cartier was utterly a ſtranger to any demands made in his name, and that he would abſolutely have refuſed a lack of rupees intended for him by the Nabob, as ſpecified in the above-mentioned general account of Mahomed Reza Cawn, had it been ever tendered to him.

That upon the whole the gentlemen who ſat at the board, as well as thoſe who negociated at the Durbar, were guilty of actual diſobedience to the Company's poſitive Orders relative to the covenants, both in delaying to execute them, and in receiving preſents contrary to the expreſs letter and ſpirit of thoſe obligations; yet to avoid every appearance of exerting with rigour the powers wherewith they are intruſted, or of being actuated by any other motives than thoſe of honour, and a firm attachment to the intereſt of their employers;

Reſolved, That the Select Committee leave to the Honourable Court of Directors to paſs final judgment, and refer to their minutes, entered in conſultation of the 23d inſtant, for a juſtification of their proceedings.

Such are the ſentiments, and ſuch the reſolution of the Select Committee, on a ſubject which they entered upon with pain, and proſecuted with reluctance; and now they appeal to the Honourable Court of Directors, and the common ſenſe of mankind, to judge whether they have purſued their inquiries with decency and candour; whether they have pried officiouſly into facts that were not publickly known to the ſettlement; whether they have handled private characters with indelicacy, ſought occaſion to condemn where they poſſibly could acquit, or divulged what the duty they owe to themſelves, their employers, and the public, would ſuffer them to conceal; and laſtly, whether they have extended beyond the bounds of the utmoſt moderation thoſe powers with which they are veſted, "To purſue ſuch ways and means as to them ſhall appear neceſſary for reſtoring peace and tranquillity?"

Taking into conſideration the youth, inexperience and incapacity of the nabob, the neceſſity of placing the adminiſtration in the hands of men capable to ſupport the weight of government, and attached to the Company's Intereſt, and likewiſe the great danger that may ariſe to the ſtability of the preſent eſtabliſhment, from ſuffering the whole power and abſolute management of the three provinces to reſt in a ſingle perſon.

Reſolved, That Mahomed Reza Cawn be adviſed to relinquiſh the title of Naib Subah, and alſo a part of the unbounded authority wherewith he was veſted by the late treaty, as a meaſure not only agreeable to the Nabob, but neceſſary to the ſafety of the preſent government, and the future tranquillity of the country; in juſtification of this reſolution, the Select Committee think it neceſſary to obſerve, that notwithſtanding Mahomed Reza Cawn is accuſed by the Nabob of diſſipating his treaſure, and withholding his revenues, yet ſo openly and candidly has he accounted to the Select Committe for every rupee diſburſed from the treaſury, they cannot, without injury to his character, and injuſtice to his conduct, during his ſhort adminiſtration, refuſe continuing him

him in a ſhare of the government, although they judge it neceſſary to retrench his authority and balance his power, in order to produce that perfect equilibrium of influence which alone can remove the nabob's jealouſies, and give permanency to the meaſures they are taking to prevent the neceſſity of future revolutions.

Taking likewiſe into conſideration the character and abilities of the ſeveral great perſonages about the nabob's court and perſon, their influence in the country, and their attachment to the Engliſh;

Reſolved, That Roydulub and Juggut Seet be aſſociated in the adminiſtration of the government, with Mahomed Reza Cawn, as Perſons whoſe characters afford us the faireſt proſpect of giving ſtability to the preſent government, and that each enjoy an equal ſhare of power and authority.

And that the Honourable Court of Directors may be ſatisfied of the reaſons which determined the committee to this choice, they beg leave to remind them, that Roydulbub was a principal agent in effecting the revolution in 1757, in favour of Meer Jaffier, ſince which time he has continued firmly atached to the Engliſh; and that Juggut Seet is ſon and nephew of the two great men plundered of their effects, and cruelly put to death, by that tyrant Coſſim Ally Cawn, on account of their faithful ſervices to the company.

Ordered, That the regulations for the adminiſtration of the country goverament be entered after theſe proceedings.

The right honourable the preſident having acquainted the Committee; that he intends leaving Calcutta in a few days, to take upon him the command of the army, and deſiring he may be intruſted with powers, in conjunction with general Carnac, for concluding peace wi h Sowjah Dowlah, and regulating the Company's Intereſt with the country powers;

Ordered, That the neceſſary powers, and the Committee's ſentiments reſpecting the term of pacification, be drawn out and conveyed to his lordſhip in the form of a letter.

A draft of the above-mentioned letter being prepared, read, and approved,

Ordered, That a fair copy be ſent to his lordſhip, and the letter entered after theſe proceedings.

Reſolved, That Mr. Verelſt be appointed ſupervifor of the Burdwan revenues, and impowered to make ſuch inquiry into the late deficiency and preſent ſituation of the rents of that country, as may enable the Committee to form a plan for regulating the future collections in ſuch manner as ſhall appear moſt conducive to the happineſs of the people, and intereſt of the Company.

Alſo that the Council at Burdawn be adviſed of his appointment, and directed to correſpond with him accordingly, but without interruption to their intercourſe with the board.

Having conſidered the important diſpatches, it will be neceſſary to tranſmit to the Court of Directors, as early as the ſeaſon will permit, the advantages which will reſult from employing a ſhip of burthen, on this ſervice, and alſo the time requiſite for equipping her;

Agreed, That we recommend to the Council the purchaſing the admiral Stevens, and having her immediately ſurveyed.

Meſſrs Vanſittart and Plowman, ſetting forth in a letter to the Committee the loſs that muſt ariſe to Mr. Henry Vanſittart, ſhould his agent, Mr. Hargrave at Rungpoor, be recalled at the time required by the late order of the Committee, and requeſting that an indulgence of three or four months longer may be granted:

Agreed, That the ſecretary acquaint them Mr. Hargrave will be allowed four months from this date, for collecting Mr. Vanſittart's affairs, and that he likewiſe inform all who may in future apply, that the Committee are reſolved to ſee the Company's orders rigidly inforced at the expiration of this period.

Mr. Skinner ſends in a letter on the ſame ſubject.

Ordered, his requeſt be granted, and that the ſecretary acquaint him of the above-mentioned reſolution.

Received a letter from Mr. Scotney at Patna, repreſenting to us the prejudice it would be to his own affairs, as well as thoſe of his conſtituents, ſhould he be obliged to return to Calcutta in the ſpace of one month.

As Mr. Scotney's repreſentation was thought diſreſpectful and improper,

Ordered, The ſecretary write him in anſwer, that ſuch applications, it is expected, ſhould be made in terms more moderate and reſpectful, but that influenced by no conſideration of the manner in which he choſe to aſk for an allowance of time, we do agree to grant him four months longer from this date, for collecting his affairs, at the expiration of which he is deſired to repair to Calcutta, without further Notice.

CLIVE.
W. B. SUMNER.
H. VERELST.
FRA. SYKES.

This month's proceedings examined
by Edward Baber,
ſub. ſecretary.

To

To the right honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letters of the 14th and 18th ultimo, and have received from your ſecretary, by your order, the extracts from the Company's general letter, and the copy of the oath of ſecreſy. This I cannot at preſent take, there being no Company's ſervant with me, but I will not fail doing it the firſt opportunity; and in the interim you may depend on my obſervance thereof, with the ſame ſtrictneſs as if ſworn.

The Introduction of captain M'Pherſon upon the Bengal eſtabliſhment was doubly an injury upon our officers; firſt, as it was directly contrary to an aſſurance which had been made them in public orders by Mr. Vanſittart, that the Officers of the Bombay Corps ſhould not be admitted into ours; and ſecondly, on account of the motive of his reception, which was avowedly no other than in conſideration of his paying to Captain Whichcot the ſum of 10,000 arcot rupees. This I ſet forth ſo plainly to the board, as your lordſhip, &c. may obſerve, in the courſe of my correſpondence, that I never could have imagined they would have perſiſted in keeping him upon our eſtabliſhment.

It is hard to account why Sujah Dowlah did not unite the forces under Sombre to the Mahrattas in their late incurſion; either they were intended to enter by another quarter from which they were deterred by the quickneſs with which we accompliſhed our buſineſs in this, or which is more probable, Sombre was afraid to enter the liſts againſt us, and his maſter had not power ſufficient to oblige him; for however contemptible he may be before us, yet having, as I am aſſured, ſtill near 300 Europeans with him of one ſort or other, and from five to ſix thouſand ſeapoys, with ſome guns, Sujah Dowlah muſt have been in awe of him, and appears to me to be glad to have got clear of him. This villain is now ſaid to be negociating for ſervice with the Jauts.

My laſt addreſs was dated the 27th ultimo, adviſing you of Sujah Dowlah's being come in to me, ſince which I have not troubled you, having nothing material to communicate. I have deferred coming to any abſolute agreement, till I have ſeen the king, and know his pleaſure. He has left Illahabad, and has got to Manikpur on his way hither; but as the rains are ſo near ſetting in, I think it moſt adviſeable to ſave him that trouble, and that we ſhould move towards him. I am accordingly croſſing our troops over the Ganges ſpeedily as poſſible for that purpoſe, and in the interim, that no time may be loſt, we are proceeding on the trials of the ſeveral gentlemen in arreſt. I have undertaken ſo far as to give Sujah Dowlah hopes of the Subah of Aud, being aſſured that his majeſty will gladly deliver it to him, as the only means to ſecure tranquillity to the country, and that it cannot be made over to any other, who will be able to maintain it longer than while our army remains. I have intimated to him, that ſome indemnification will be expected by us from him, for the immenſe expence in which he involved us, and ſhall ſtrenuouſly inſiſt thereon; and I flatter myſelf of ſucceeding, though he pleads poverty, and has ſolemnly aſſerted to me, in the name of God and his prophet, that he has not two laaks of rupees: ſhould you be of opinion with me, that the Zamyndary of Benaras, &c. is at too great a diſtance to be worth our keeping, this may alſo be hereafter ceded to him, in conſideration of a ſum of money in exchange for the ſame.

Major Stibbert, whom I detached towards the frontier on this ſide of Lucknau, has been very active and diligent, and has entirely removed the diſaffected parties that ſtill remained in that neighbourhood, by means of a forced march. He fell in with, on the morning of the 2d inſtant, one Mungul Chan, a Jematdar, who had been particularly troubleſome. After a ſhort ſkirmiſh, the enemy were put to the rout, Mungul Chan himſelf, with ſeveral of his people were killed, and a parcel of country guns, which they had with them, all taken.

I have been reduced to the neceſſity of forcing ſome other forts near our camp; and as we loſt a voluntier, and a few men on the occaſion, the ill-fated defendants have paid the forfeit of their lives for their obſtinacy.

I have diſcovered a moſt flagrant fraud in the muſter of the quarter maſter's coolies belonging to the Bombay detachment. Finding that their number greatly exceeded what their quantity of ſtores required, I examined the quarter-maſter's banian, who acknowledged his having taken from the Bazar upwards of three hundred men to ſtand the muſter. I immediately confined the acting quarter-maſter, the eſtabliſhed being ſick at Illahabad, and you may be aſſured I will uſe every endeavour to trace the fraud to its ſource, that an exemplary puniſhment may be inflicted on thoſe capable of ſo ſhameful an impoſition.

I have the honour to be with the greateſt reſpect,
my Lord, and Gentlemen,
your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
JOHN CARNAC.

Camp at Nagapur,
the 17th June 1765.

To

APPENDIX, No. 84.

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

SIR,

We have juſt received your Letter of the 7th inſtant, in which you expreſs your expectations of concluding matters very ſpeedily with Sujah Dowlah. By this we imagine you underſtand the adjuſting certain preliminary articles, to ſerve for the outlines of a peace, to be finally concluded on Lord Clive's arrival in camp. You are already informed that his lordſhip, in conjunction with you, will have full power to purſue ſuch meaſures and form engagements, as he may think neceſſary, and you will perceive from our Letter of the 10th inſtant, that the Intentions of the ſelect committee reſpecting the terms of pacification are different in ſome material particulars from thoſe you expreſs; for this reaſon, we hope it will reach your hands ſoon enough to prevent you entering into any definitive engagements.

Captain M'Pherſon's appointment would probably never have taken place, had Lord Clive then been in charge of the government. As things are now circumſtanced, we are of opinion the officers ought to reſt ſatisfied with his loſing rank, and coming in the youngeſt captain on the Engliſh eſtabliſhment, as a farther conceſſion cannot be made with any propriety by the board. We are with great regard,

SIR,

Fort William the 21ſt June, 1765.

Your moſt humble Servants

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the ſelect Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have received a letter, ſigned by your ſecretary, dated the 13th inſtant, conveying ſeveral extracts and papers from your proceedings, touching an inquiry made by you into the buſineſs of the late deputation, of which I had the honour to be a member, and requiring me to anſwer to ſuch facts as related to myſelf, which I ſhall now do, and in as clear a manner as poſſible.

That I have received a preſent from the nabob I will not take upon me to deny, but not in the manner ſet forth in the narative, No 1; and am much ſurpriſed that Mahomed Reza Cawn ſhould have forgot himſelf ſo much. I had heard that the nabob did intend a preſent to the gentlemen in council, but what it was I never knew, till one Evening that Meſſieurs Johnſtone and Leyceſter came to ſup with me at Moodapoor, when the latter told me, that Mahomed Reza Cawn had been at Mootyjill that afternoon, and brought a paper from his excellency, offering a ſum of money to the gentlemen of the deputation, and deſired to know my opinion of the matter, whether or no I intended taking of it; to which I replied, if it is a voluntary gift, I ſhould have no objections, nor did I think the world could blame me for it. Much more paſſed on the occaſion, which I cannot now recollect; but as it was only made a ſecondary part of our Converſation, it is not material to the ſubject. He further told me, that Mahomed Reza Cawn would be at Mootyjill the next Morning, and deſired I would come over. Accordingly Mahomed Reza Cawn came at the appointed time, and preſented us with a paper, wrote upon in the Perſian Language, which he explained, and was to this purpoſe: The nabob Nizam ul Dowlah deſires the gentlemen of the deputation to accept of a preſent as follows: To Mr. Johnſtone 1,37,500; to Meſſieurs Senior, Midleton, and Leyceſter, 1,12,500 each; which paper we returned to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and, to the beſt of my Remembrance, told him, That if the nabob deſigned us ſuch a preſent, it muſt come directly from himſelf, and not through the hands of him, M. R. Cawn, or words to the ſame purpoſe. A ſhort time after having buſineſs at the Durbar, we waited upon the nabob, and after ſome converſation with him, he himſelf preſented us with the before-mentioned paper, which we again refuſed, telling him, that as he had in a manner expreſſed a diſſatisfaction at our proceedings, how could he think we would accept a preſent from him? He upon this appeared ſomething alarmed, and told us, That he was by no means diſpleaſed with our behaviour to him; on the contrary believed us his ſincere friends; but if we ſtill perſiſted in the refuſal, he ſhould look upon us hereafter as his enemies; and that we had ſome other reaſon for it, or words to that effect. Upon which we accepted the paper, and delivered it to Mahomed Reza Cawn for payment. No more was ſaid of the matter, as I know of, till ſuch time Nundcomar was ordered to Calcutta, when about three Days after we returned the paper again, as we heard his excellency had been greatly diſpleaſed at this proceeding of calling down his miniſter, and laid the whole blame upon the gentlemen of the deputation. He accordingly appeared to loſe all confidence in us, and ſaid, that he was now convinced we were his enemies, and were determined to remain ſo, &c. which induced us to take back the paper, and it ſeemingly gave him perfect ſatisfaction. Mahomed Reza Cawn, thereupon became anſwerable for the payment of the money, which was accordingly made.

With regard to the preſent received from Mahomed Reza Cawn, as ſet forth in his narrative, (N° 2.) I am greatly ſurprized he ſhould aſſert that the propoſal came from the members of the deputation; and do ſolemnly declare, that it never was done in my preſence, or to my knowledge, nor did I ever conſider it in the light he mentions, but as a token of his gratitude for the

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many good offices he has repeatedly expreſſed to have formerly received at my hands; as to what he mentions regarding the reſt of the council, I am entirely ignorant of the matters; nor did I believe that ſuch a queſtion was ever put to him, or ſuch an anſwer made him, by any of the members.

Touching the Seet's preſent, I do declare upon my honour, that I never knew of any threatening meſſages being ſent him on the occaſion, either through Mootyram, or any others; but always looked upon it as an offer made by himſelf. Nor would I by any means have agreed to the receiving of it, had I in the leaſt ſuſpected that even an application had been made to him for it.

Thus have I anſwered, as far as is in my power, the particulars requeſted of me. It is poſſible my not being perfectly acquainted with the language of the Durbar may have occaſioned ſome ſmall variation in trifling circumſtances, but I am conſcious of having acquitted myſelf in the late deputation, truly for the honour as well as intereſt of my employers. I cannot therefore accuſe myſelf, or think I ſtand liable to the cenſure of others, by benenting ſomething my private fortune in a ſervice which has ever been known to prove advantageous to ſuch gentlemen as have heretofore been employed on the occaſion.

I am,

Coſſimbuzar, the 18th June 1765.

My Lord, and Gentlemen, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

A. W. SENIOR.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

Having received a letter, dated the 13th inſtant, from your ſecretary, incloſing copies of your proceedings of the 1ſt, 6th, 7th, and 8th June, relative to ſome preſents ſaid to be received by the Members of the deputation from the Nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet, with their narrative of the affair, and requiring me to declare how far thoſe parts relating to myſelf are true;—I beg leave to trouble you with the following remarks and anſwer.

In Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, (No 1.) I obſerve the following paragraph, ſaid to be a ſpeech from us to him.

"The gentlemen who have aſſiſted former Nazims have obtained preſents; now that we have "ſeated his excellency on the muſnud, and rendered him ſervice, we hope that he will make "preſents to us alſo; do you repreſent this to his excellency:" And that he deſired we would mention it to his excellency ourſelves: but that on our further preſſing him, (he, apprehenſive of our being offended at a refuſal) did apply to the Nabob, and obtained his conſent. To this I reply, That no converſation to this effect did ever paſs in my preſence, or to my knowledge; nor did I ever know of any preſent being demanded either from the Nabob or Mahomed Reza Cawn. The latter, on a viſit to us at Mootyjill produced a paper, with the Nabob's ſeal, containing an offer of 475,000 rupees to be diſtributed as follows: to Mr. Johnſtone 137,500, to Mr. Senior 112,500, to Mr. Leyceſter 112,500, and to myſelf 112,500, which we then rejected, and deſired Mahomed Reza Cawn to return it to the Nabob. About two days after this, being at the Kella on buſineſs, the Nabob himſelf preſented us with the paper, which we again refuſed; and it was not till after his moſt earneſt and repeated ſolicitation (and being ſeemingly offended at our refuſing it) that we agreed to take it; and he then ordered Mahomed Reza Cawn to ſee it paid.

In Mahomet Reza Cawn's ſecond narrative, I obſerve the following Meſſage, ſaid to be delivered to him by Mootyram as from us: "Whereas you have been appointed his excellency's "naib, it is proper that you make us ſome preſent from yourſelf." I deny that any meſſage of the kind was ever ſent to my knowledge, or by my conſent, either by Mootyram or others; nor did I ever deſire any acknowledgement from Mahomed Reza Cawn, but was informed by Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Leyceſter, that a preſent of one laak was intended by him to each of the deputies. I avoided receiving any part of this, and afterwards determined on refuſing it, with which I acquainted Mr. Leyceſter, on my arrival at Calcutta; and then he told me, he had intended the ſame for ſome time.

Juggut Seet in his narrative ſays, that he received by Mootyram the following meſſage as from the deputation: "Make us ſome acknowledgment, and we will ſettle all your buſineſs "according to your heart's deſire, otherwiſe we ſhall be diſpleaſed, and your buſineſs will meet "with no aſſiſtance; for you formerly made an acknowledgment to Lord Clive and other gentle"men." That on his declining it was again repeated with threats, and he was thereby obliged to promiſe 125,000 rupees, 5000 of which he paid down. I muſt here declare I know of no meſſage being ever ſent, or application made, to Juggut Seet, regarding a preſent or acknowledgment from him to us. Mr. Leyceſter acquainted me, that Juggut Seet intended ſomething to the gentlemen of the deputation, but he did not then know how much. Some

time

APPENDIX, No. 84.

Time after Mahomed Reza Cawn at Mootyjill ſaid in my Preſence, that Juggut Seet intended 115,000 Rupees to be divided between the four Deputies; that 40,000 was paid to them; and I ſome Time after received from him 10,000 Rupees as my Proportion. The above is all I know relative to this Tranſaction, being entirely ignorant of Mootyram's being employed in this Buſineſs. In your Proceedings of the 8th inſtant, containing an Examination of Mootyram, I find the above Narrative of Juggut Seet confirmed by the Depoſition of Mootyram, who, however ſays he received his Orders from Mr. Johnſtone alone; but in the Name of all the Gentlemen of the Deputation: I think it neceſſary, in Juſtice to my own Character, to declare, I never authoriſed Mr. Johnſtone to give ſuch Orders, nor did I ever hear from him that ſuch Meſſages were ſent, as I ever eſteemed the Sum I received from Juggut Seet a voluntary Offer of his own.

I obſerve that Mahomed Reza Cawn deſires that it may be minuted in your Proceedings, that on the Gentlemen deſiring a Preſent from him, he aſked if it was not a general Affair, and if the other Gentlemen of the Council were not to have a Share? To which the Deputies replied, "This muſt be for us, let them look to themſelves." Of this I declare myſelf entirely ignorant, as I never heard of ſuch a Queſtion being put, or ſuch an Anſwer being given.

Having now, as far as came to my Knowledge, replied to every Particular concerning myſelf; and as you have been pleaſed to take upon you to enquire into theſe Tranſactions, I freely ſubmit it to your Determination, being conſcious of having never acted contrary to the ſtrict Principles of Honour, or in the leaſt deviated from the Duty I owe my Employers. I am with great Reſpect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient Servant

Samuel Middleton.

Moradbaug, the 18th June 1765.

Regulations for the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa.

The Nabob Nudjum-ul-Dowlah, Meer Nud jum-ul-Deen Ally Cawn Bahadre, Nazim, the Nabob Maeen-ul-Doulah, Syed, Mahomed Reza Cawn Bahadre, Nayb, Mharaja Doolabram Br. Dewaan, Juggut Seet Cooſhaulchund and Mharaja Odweichund, Chiefs of Trade.

The appointing and diſplacing of the Fougzdars, Aumils, and other Officers of the Niſamut, and the Regulation of the whole Buſineſs of the Revenues and the Country under his Excellency, ſhall be managed by the Nabob Maeen-ul-Dowlah Br. Mharaja Doolabram Br. and the Seets, and his Excellency ſhall conſent thereto.

If any one be oppreſſed, his Effects ſeized, or his Life endangered, the aforeſaid Gentlemen ſhall uſe their Endeavours to put a Stop to ſuch Proceedings, and if they ſuſpect that it is not in their Power to put a Stop to them, they ſhall adviſe the Governor thereof with all Speed, that he may inform the Gentlemen of the Council or Committee of ſuch Proceedings, and put a Stop to them.

After the neceſſary Expences of Government have been provided for, if there be any Overplus, it ſhall be depoſited in the public Treaſury, under the Care of the aforeſaid Gentlemen; and there ſhall be three different Locks to the Door of the Treaſury, and three Keys, one to remain in the Poſſeſſion of each of the aforeſaid Gentlemen, that neither of them may be able to take out any Money without the conſent of the others.

Of theſe three Gentlemen Maeen-ul-Dowlah Br. Mharaja Doolabram, and the Seets, if any one act contrary to the Opinion of the other Two, thoſe Two ſhall give Advice thereof to the Governor, that he may lay the Matter before the Gentlemen of the Council or Committee, and take proper Meaſures on the Occaſion.

Such Number of Horſe and Foot ſhall be kept up as the aforeſaid Gentlemen ſhall judge neceſſary for the Buſineſs of the Collections, and all needleſs and improper Expences ſhall be reduced.

Let them remove from the Durbar all miſchievous men, deceitful and evil counſellors, and not put it in their power to make any diſturbance.

Let not the aforeſaid Gentlemen go to the Durbar without each other's knowledge, nor attempt any Thing to each other's Prejudice.

For the Preſervation of friendſhip and harmony, and the care of the Nabob's affairs, and the company's money, a Gentleman of Council, of probity, and abilities, ſhall be appointed to reſide at the capital, on the part of the Company. A monthly allowance ſhall be made him by the Government proportionable to his rank, and the accounts of the receipts and expences for the buſineſs of the Government, &c. ſhall be laid before him monthly for his peruſal.

Inſtructions from the Select Committee.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

We greatly approve your reſolution to embrace the preſent favourable opportunity of eſtabliſhing a general peace, and effecting a cordial and laſting friendſhip with the country powers.

Theſe important ends, ſo neceſſary to the proſperity of the Company, will more effectually be anſwered by a perſonal interview with Sujah Dowlah, and the other chiefs, than from a correſpondence carried on at this diſtance, as many circumſtances leading to a direct knowledge of their real ſentiments will occur in the courſe of your conferences.

It is from a conſideration of theſe circumſtances that we apprehend any particular inſtructions to your lordſhip will be unneceſſary. Much muſt be left to the diſcretion of thoſe who act on the Spot; and we are happy in the aſſurances that your lordſhip's perfect acquaintance with, and zeal for, the Company's intereſt, will enable you to fulfil our moſt ſanguine wiſhes.

The preliminary articles tranſmitted the 11th inſtant to General Carnac contain our general ſenſe of the terms which we ought to demand; and to reſtrain your Lordſhip to expreſs inſtructions, would only ſerve to retard and embarraſs your negociations.

We therefore impower your Lordſhip, in conjunction with Brigadier General Carnac, to ſtipulate ſuch conditions with Sujah Dowlah, to form ſuch connexions with the country powers, and to purſue ſuch means as you ſhall judge neceſſary to the Company's intereſt, the public welfare, and the obtaining a ſafe, honourable, advantageous, and laſting peace. At the ſame time we muſt requeſt your Lordſhip's particular attention to the preliminaries already conveyed to the General, and now incloſed, upon which we ſhall beg leave to enlarge, ſince we conſider them as eſſential to the ſtability of the public tranquillity.

Experience having ſhewn that an influence maintained by force of arms is deſtructive of that commercial ſpirit which we ought to promote, ruinous to the Company, and oppreſſive to the country, we earneſtly recommend to your Lordſhip, to exert your utmoſt endeavours to conciliate the affections of the country powers, to remove the jealouſy they may have conceived of our ambition, and convince them that we aim not at conqueſt and dominion, but ſecurity in carrying on a free trade, equally beneficial to them and to us.

With this view policy requires that our demands be moderate and equitable, and that we avoid every appearance of an inclination to enlarge our territorial poſſeſſions. The ſacrifice of conqueſts which we muſt hold on a precarious tenure, and at an expence more than equivalent to their revenues, is of ſlight conſideration to us, yet will ſuch reſtitution impreſs them with a high opinion of our generoſity and juſtice.

For this reaſon we think Sujah Dowlah ſhould be reinſtated in the full poſſeſſion of all his dominions, with ſuch limitations only as he muſt ſee are evidently calculated for our mutual benefit, the good of his country, and happineſs of his people. We would decline inſiſting upon any terms that muſt prove irkſome to his high ſpirit, and imply our ſuſpcion of his ſincerity. Retaining poſſeſſion of any of his ſtrong holds may be deemed a neceſſary pledge of his fidelity; for our parts, we would rather conſider it as the ſource of future contention, and an unneceſſary burthen to the Company, unleſs it is propoſed one day to reſume the thoughts of extending

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their dominions—a meaſure very oppoſite to the ſentiments in which we left the Proprietors and Court of Directors.

Thus by engaging the Vizier to a ſtrict regard to the conditions of our amity by the tiesof Honour, Gratitude, and Intereſt, we form the moſt ſecure barrier to the Nabob's dominion on this quarter that can well be deviſed. It is General Carnac's opinion, and it is likeie our's, that no other perſon can be placed in that ſtation, whoſe authority, influence, and popularity, will ſo effectually anſwer this intention, or whoſe character promiſes fairer to become a faithful ally, when wrought upon by motives of gratitude and intereſt. He has thrown himſelf into our arms, he veſts his hopes on our generoſity, it becomes us therefore not to diſappoint his expectations, and urge him on to deſpair.

It will be neceſſary, however, that your Lordſhip obtain a full grant, in the fulleſt terms, for carrying on a free trade through his dominions, with the privileges of eſtabliſhing factories wherever we ſhall think proper, to which ſhall be annexed ſuch contiguous lands and diſtricts, as may be found neceſſary to the convenience and ſupport of the ſettlements. We mean without charge to Sujah Dowlah, or diminution of his revenues. But the keeping poſſeſſion of Chinagur, and other ſtrong holds, and protecting our commerce by military power, is a meaſure concerning the expendiency of which your Lordſhip will judge from a further enquiry into circumſtances.

That Bulwant Sing be ſecured in the poſſeſſion of his Zemindary, Nudjuff Cawn reſtored to the ſame ſituation and circumſtances as at the commencement of the war, and all poſſible protection and favour obtained for thoſe who aſſiſt us, are terms which Juſtice and Honour demand.

That Coſſin Ally, Sombre, and the deſerters, be ſurrendered to us, or put to death by Sujah Dowlah, is a point we extremely wiſh to obtain, if it can be effected without violence to his inclinations, and danger to the ſtability of the peace; but hitherto Sujah Dowlah has appeared ſo averſe to this conceſſion, which ſo deeply affects his honour, that we doubt whether your Lordſhip will meet with ſucceſs.

We would likewiſe recommend, that proviſion be made for the ſecurity of the king's perſon and dignity; but in what particular manner we leave to your lordſhip and General Carnac to determine, from a conſideration of the circumſtances and ſituation of the country.

And this, my lord, would appear to us the moſt favourable occaſion that may ever occur for obtaining Sunnuds from the king for the Dewannee of Bengal; a point of great conſequence to the Company, much deſired, and ſtrongly ſolicited, by General Carnac, but without effect; a price being expected and demanded that was thought by the Governor and Council more than equivalent to the advantage. Times are ſince altered. The King is now dependant on our bounty; his whole hopes of protection and ſubſiſtence reſt upon us. It cannot therefore be ſuppoſed he will prove obſtinate in denying a requeſt of little conſequence to him in his preſent circumſtances, but advantageous to us his greateſt benefactors; and, we may ſay, his only friends. We therefore beg leave to recommend this as one of the moſt important points to be negociated.

Laſtly, We are of opinion your Lordſhip ſhould require ſuch indemnification for the great expences incurred by the Company as juſtice demands, Sujah Dowlah may be brought to think reaſonable, and the country can afford, without oppreſſing the people, and thereby laying the foundation of freſh diſcontents.

Upon the whole, my Lord, notwithſtanding we have reaſon to conclude, from the report of Sujah Dowlah's character, that acts of generoſity are the moſt likely means to ſecure his friendſhip and fidelity, yet we muſt ſubmit to your Lordſhip's judgment, formed on a more intimate knowledge of his ſentiments and diſpoſition, how far it will be neceſſary to guard againſt a breach of faith, and the diſappointment of our hopes. Princes are not always confined to the laws preſcribed by Honour and Juſtice, nor governed by the dictates of good policy. Sparks of reſentment may lie concealed in his breaſt, ready to be kindled into a flame by the firſt guſt of paſſion or ambition. In courſe of your conferences many opportunities will occur of penetrating into his moſt ſecret wiſhes, from which your Lordſhip may determine, whether it will not be expedient to bind him down by ſtronger ties than thoſe of Honour and Gratitude, and operate on his fears, when we deſpair of engaging his affections. Reſtitution of his country, ſhould we even retain Chinagur and Jaonpoor, is more than he can poſſibly hope in his preſent ſituation; yet ſhould this reſtriction appear the only obſtruction to a cordial and permanent peace, we think it ought to be relinquiſhed.

Theſe, my Lord, are the principal objects which we beg leave to offer to your attention; the reſt we readily ſubmit to the conduct of that prudence which has ſo often availed our employers in more difficult ſituations. We have only further to requeſt, that your Lordſhip will favour us with a communication of ſuch of your negociations as you may think more immediately

diately intereſting to the Select Committee; and be aſſured of our beſt wiſhes for your health and ſucceſs, being with equal eſteem and reſpect,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient,

And moſt humble Servants.

Fort William, 21 June, 1765.

4th July, 1765.

At a Select Committee,

PRESENT.

W. B. Sumner, Eſquire, Preſident,
Harry Verelſt, Eſquire,
Francis Sykes, Eſquire.

Read, approved, and ſigned, the proceedings of the 21ſt ult.

The Right Honourable the Preſident having tranſmitted to us a letter, under date the 23d ult. which he received from Mahomed Reza Cawn, the ſame was attentively peruſed by the Committee, who unanimouſly agree,

That Mahomed Reza Cawn has, in this letter, related facts with great candour and preciſion, confirming in the ſtrongeſt manner the ſeveral particulars ſet forth in his former evidence.

That he poſitively aſſerts, and with the greateſt appearance of truth, that neither the preſents from the Nabob, nor from himſelf, were voluntary, but granted after ſome altercation and tedious negociations with the Gentlemen of the deputation.

That, "Mr. Johnſtone at firſt deſired a very large ſum; but after a great debate," and many conferences, Mootyram conſented to accept 625,000 rupees from the Nabob, and 475,000 rupees from Mahomed Reza Cawn; of which ſums the whole has been paid by the Nabob, and 225,000 by M. R. Cawn, in money and bills.

That over and above 137,500 rupees, which Mr. Johnſtone obtained from the Nabob, as a joint member and ſenior ſervant on the depuration, the ſame gentleman ſtipulated, "That "100,000 rupees for himſelf, and 50,000 rupees for his brother, ſhould be paid ſecretly from "all the other gentlemen."

That, beſides the above ſums clandeſtinely obtained from the Nabob, Mr. Johnſtone, as principal agent and manager, thought proper, without the conſent or knowledge of his colleagues, likewiſe to appropriate 50,000 rupees to himſelf, and 25,000 rupees to his brother, out of the money granted by Mahomed Reza Cawn, over and above his allowed proportion, as a member of the deputation.

And laſtly, the Committee agree,

That Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter be entered on the face of their proceedings, as undeniable teſtimony to all whom it may concern, of the neceſſity of the impartiality of their proceedings, and the great lenity of their reſolution, in ſubmitting final judgment to the Court of Directors, notwithſtanding their conduct has been bitterly cenſured, their powers arraigned, their characters aſperſed, and their authority inſufficient to enable them to proceed, and juſtify them in proceeding to the laſt exeremity.

The Select Committee think it neceſſary on this occaſion to aſſign the reaſons which induced them to recommend to the Board to purchaſe the Admiral Stevens.

That after waiting till the 4th of July, in daily expectation of the Royal George, or ſome other packet from Europe, they now have the utmoſt reaſon to apprehend no veſſel will arrive ſoon enough to be returned with the important advices, which they propoſe tranſmitting to the Court of Directors early in September, in order they may receive the Company's further inſtructions by the ſhips to be diſpatched in March, April, or May following.

That

That as the ſeaſon is now ſo far advanced, as ſcarce to allow the time requiſite for repairing and equipping a ſhip for the voyage, they think it abſolutely neceſſary to come to a determination, and to enter on immediate preparations.

That they apprehend the Lapwing, being an exceeding bad ſailer, might arrive too late in England, to anſwer the very purpoſe for which advices from the committee are diſpatched, and at beſt would only anſwer the end of a packet, whereby the company would incur a very conſiderable expence;

Whereas, on the other hand, the Admiral Stevens, being an excellent ſhip, and prime ſailer, offered at a very reaſonable price, has this additional advantage, that ſhe will carry home a rich and valuable cargo, at a ſeaſon, when it muſt prove very acceptable to the company, who will find themſelves diſappointed of great part of the goods they expected to receive by the Bute, having received no advices from general Carnac ſince our laſt meeting.

Agreed, we acquaint him with our ſurpriſe at his ſilence at ſo critical a juncture; and that lord Clive was on his way to camp, to take upon him the command of the army, and negociate a peace with Sujah Dowlah, in conjunction with him.

Agreed alſo, we write to lord Clive, informing him, that a warrant for his holding courts martial will immediately be ſent, and encloſing a copy of our letter to the general.

Ordered, that both theſe letters be entered after the proceedings.

Mr. Marriott having applied for leave that his brother ſhould remain with him at Benaras, agreeably to the reſolution of the board laſt December,

The ſecretary is directed to acquaint him, that we grant his requeſt.

Mr. Billers alſo repreſenting how much his private affairs would ſuffer, ſhould he be deprived of Mr. Hutchinſon's aſſiſtance, by his compliance with the order for recalling free merchants, and requeſting he may be allowed to remain with him at Patna,

The ſecretary is directed to inform Mr. Billers, that his requeſt is granted, in conſideration of the neceſſity he is under of giving his whole attention to the publick buſineſs.

Mr. Thomas Motte ſetting forth in a letter to the committee, that his fortune muſt be entirely ruined, ſhould he be obliged to return to Calcutta agreeable to the late order, on account of the balance of rents due to him on the farms held from the company in Burdwan,

The ſecretary is ordered to acquaint him likewiſe, that the time neceſſary for collecting his debts will be allowed.

Mr. Amyatt alſo repreſents the complicated ſtate of the late Mr. Ellis's affairs, for which he is adminiſtrator, and requeſts that his agents, Meſſrs. Tamlin, Jeffſon and Helaſs, may be indulged with a longer time than that ſpecified in the late order.

The ſecretary had directions to acquaint him, that four months from the 21ſt ultimo will be allowed them for collecting the affairs of the deceaſed in their hands.

Having juſt received a letter from general Carnac, under date the 19th ultimo.

Agreed we immediately acknowledge his letter; and order it, together with the committee's anſwer to be entered.

This month's proceedings examined by
Edward Barker,
Sub-ſecretary.

Wm. B. Sumner.
H. Verelſt.
Francis Sykes.

Mahomed Reza Cawn's Letter to the Right Honourable Lord Clive.

" I have had the honour to receive your letter, wherein you write, That the account " I gave of the money received by the gentlemen from the nabob and me has been " laid before the council, that now all the gentlemen ſay, That the nabob made them " preſents of his own free will; that you are informed by Mr. Senior, in a letter he " has written you in anſwer, that the money, *viz.* 137,500, rupees for Mr. Johnſtone, " 112,500 for Mr. Middleton, 112,500, for Mr. Leyceſter, and 112,500 for Mr. " Senior, was diſtributed by me; and that you, therefore, requeſt I will immediately " acquaint you whether the diſtribution of the money was made by the nabob of " his own free will, or by me, or by the direction of any other perſons."

Sir, I have already fully repreſented, and do now again fully repreſent, on this ſubject, what is the real ſtate of the caſe. There is one paper to which his excellency has ſet his hand and ſeal for 475,000 rupees, which ſum was given by his excellency agreeable to my repreſentations, and my repreſentations were in conſequence of Mr. Johnſtone's deſire, who ſent me a meſſage by Mootyram that the gentlemen wanted ſome money, and that I ſhould procure them ſome from the nabob. As I perceived that in caſe of my not repreſenting this matter to the nabob, the gentlemen would have been offended with me, I was therefore obliged to do it. I was for ſome days treating with Mootyram on this ſubject.

Mr. Johnſtone at firſt deſired a very large ſum, but after a great deal of debate, the nabob gave under his hand and ſeal one note for 475,000 rupees, and other two notes for 100,000 rupees for Mr. Johnſtone, and 50,000 for his brother, the whole amounting to 625,000 rupees for Mr. Johnſtone, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Senior, Mr. Leyceſter, and Mr. Johnſtone's brother. When this ſum was fixed, I ſhewed the notes to Mr. Johnſtone. At that time no diſtribution of the money had been ſettled, but it was afterwards ſettled in his excellency's preſence, agreeably to Mr. Johnſtone's directions concerning it. I gave all the three notes into his excellency's hand, and likewiſe acquainted him, that it was Mr. Johnſtone's pleaſure that the 100,000 rupees for himſelf, and 50,000 for his brother, ſhould be paid ſecretly from all the other gentlemen; the note for 475,000 rupees his excellency delivered with his own hand in preſence of all the four gentlemen, to Mr. Johnſtone, who at firſt refuſed it, but at laſt received it out of his excellency's hand; and ſaid, "What ſhall the gentlemen do with a bare note?" His excellency delivered the note to me, and told me, Do you pay all this money; I accordingly did ſo, agreeably to his excellency's orders. With regard to the gentleman's aſſertion, that the nabob gave the money of his own free will, in ſuch caſe why did he complain to you, Sir, that I had taken away the money belonging to his houſe, and diſtributed it amongſt the gentlemen? Do you yourſelf judge I did nothing but obey the orders of both ſides? My repreſentations to his excellency were in conſequence of the gentlemen's orders, and his excellency himſelf alſo told me, that I muſt do whatever was their pleaſure.

With regard to the notes I gave from myſelf, the amount thereof is 475,000 rupees, Mootyram came to me, and told me, that I ought to make ſome preſent to Mr. Johnſtone, and the other gentlemen. from myſelf alſo. I ſent a meſſage in anſwer ſuitable to my circumſtances, but Mootyram returned and acquainted me, that the gentlemen were not ſatisfied, but were even offended with me. Agreeably to their pleaſure, therefore, I gave notes for 475,000 rupees, one for 400,000 to be equally divided between Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Senior, Middleton, and Leyceſter, and one which the other gentlemen knew nothing of (for 75,000 rupees) 50,000 for Mr. Johnſtone, and 25,000 for his brother. Of the above ſum 225,000 rupees have been paid, 175,000 by five bills which you have ſeen, and 50,000 in ready money to Mr. Senior; and there is a balance due of 250,000 rupees, 100,000 to Mr. Middleton, 50,000 to Mr. Senior, 50,000 to Mr. Johnſtone, and 50,000 to Mr. Leyceſter. I formerly ſhewed you copies of the nabob's three notes, and now alſo I tranſmit you copies incloſed. My two notes Mootyram received from me, and carried to Mr. Johnſtone, in whoſe hands I imagine they now are. You will demand them from him and peruſe them. What I formerly repreſented, and now again repreſent, deviates not a hair's breadth from the truth. I then acquainted you fully with the particulars, and now I relate the ſubſtance to you: this matter I have already written to the committee.

I arrived to-day, being Sunday, at Doudpoor, where I was honoured with your letter; I ſhall ſet out to-night for Moorſhedabad, and have the honour of waiting on his excellency to-morrow.

A true tranſlation.
George Vanſittart,
Perſian Tranſlator.

Dated the 23d June 1765.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

We now forward to you under cover our letter to general Carnac, and to-morrow we ſhall diſpatch the warrant for your lordſhip to hold courts martial.

The ſecretary acquaints us, that you approve the extract ſent you from the proceedings of the 21ſt ultimo.

We ſhall therefore put an end to that tedious buſineſs the firſt meeting of the board, and open our next committee with Mahomed Reza Cawn's letter to your lordſhip, and a few general remarks upon it, as it cannot with any propriety be entered in the proceedings of the 21ſt.

You may be aſſured, my lord, we ſhall give the moſt attentive peruſal, as you deſire, to the proceedings of the court martial, of which your lordſhip will be able to form a ſtill more accurate judgement when you are in camp, and a witneſs to many leading circumſtances that cannot be expreſſed on paper.

We remain, with the warmeſt ſentiments of eſteem,

My Lord,

Fort William, the 1ſt July, 1765.

Your Lordſhip's
Moſt humble Servants.

To

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

SIR,

Purſuant to our advices tranſmitted to you the 20th, lord Clive left this place the 25th ultimo, propoſing to ſtop a day or two at Moorſhedabad, and then to proceed with all poſſible diſpatch to the army, of which you will reſign the command to his lordſhip immediately on his arrival.

We have veſted his lordſhip, in conjunction with you, with full powers to negotiate with Sujah Doulah and the country powers, and you will perceive from the tenor of our inſtructions, that our great aim is to obtain a laſting and honourable peace, to revive our languiſhing commerce, to impreſs the natives with a ſenſe of our juſtice and moderation, and to reduce theſe heavy military charges, which have hitherto rendered our extraordinary ſucceſs, and even the ceſſion of rich provinces, fruitleſs to the company.

From the contents of your letter, under date the 7th ultimo, it appears to us, that circumſtances of the higheſt importance muſt daily occur, which it is abſolutely neceſſary ſhould be communicated to the committee. We are ſorry therefore to obſerve your ſilence at a critical juncture, when you muſt be ſenſible that every article of intelligence would enable us to judge more clearly, and determine preciſely on many points of which we can now form only general and imperfect ideas. We earneſtly recommend to you, therefore, that you will omit no opportunity of writing to the committee until lord Clive's arrival, and that you will then co-operate with his lordſhip in purſuing ſuch meaſures, as ſhall appear neceſſary to the company's welfare, and the happineſs of the country.

We remain, with eſteem,
Fort William, the 1ſt July, 1765. SIR,
Your moſt humble Servants.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. &c. Gentlemen of the Seleſt Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your letter of the 30th ultimo, and with a duplicate thereof.

I am thoroughly ſenſible of, and truly thankful for, the attention you have been pleaſed to ſhew me, ſo different from the behaviour towards me of the late adminiſtration. If I have expreſſed myſelf with too much warmth on occaſion of their ill treatment, I hope you will be kind enough to make allowances for the repeated ſlights I had received, and that you think they, in ſome meaſure, juſtify my reſentment.

As ſoon as I had diſſolved the court martial, I judged it moſt adviſeable to make the beſt of my way to the king, who choſe to halt at Manikpur, and there wait for me. Accordingly I puſhed forwards, leaving Major Jennings to bring on the army by eaſy marches, Sir Robert Fletcher being ſomewhat indiſpoſed, and being on that account gone by water to Illahabad. I arrived here yeſterday, and immediately waited upon his majeſty, who expreſſed much ſatisfaction at Sujah Doulah's being come in, and confeſt he had no other expedient but by a reconciliation with him of maintaining himſelf longer than while ſupported by us. I am to preſent Sujah Doulah to him to-morrow: I wait with the greateſt impatience for your lordſhip's, &c. Anſwer to my addreſs of the 22d ultimo, being in hopes it will bring me ſome intimations whereby I may judge how far you are willing to favour Sujah Doulah, and to ſerve me, as a foundation to proceed with the greateſt Confidence.

Before I croſt the Ganges, Daym Chan, the adopted ſon of Akmud Ghan (Bungyo), waited upon me on the part of his father, and both Akmud Chan himſelf, and Hafez Rahmut, another conſiderable Rohyllhah Chief, ſignified to me their deſire of viſiting me; but neither the ſeaſon nor the buſineſs I was upon would admit of the loſs of ſo much time as would neceſſarily be taken up in receiving their viſit.

The Jauts have been much alarmed by our entering the Subah of Agra, and have ſet all their hands at work in ſetting that, and the other ports in their poſſeſſion, in the beſt poſture of defence.

Our troops are ſo exhauſted, and have ſuffered ſo much from the exceſſive heat, as to require being thrown into quarters of refreſhment as ſoon as poſſible; I propoſe diſpoſing the greater part of them in the neighbourhood of Jumpur, within twenty Koſs of Benaras, which is repreſented to me as an exceeding healthy ſituation.

I am with reſpect, my Lord, and Gentlemen,
Manykpur, Your moſt humble Servant,
the 19th June, 1765. John Carnac.

To

To Brigadier General John Carnac, Commander in Chief of the Army.

SIR,

Your letter of the 19th, which we received yeſterday, gave us great pleaſure, by removing the uneaſineſs we found on account of your ſilence, at a time when your correſpondence alone could afford any information on many important ſubjects, which neceſſarily demand the attention of the ſelect committee.

This occaſioned the paragraph in our letter to you the 1ſt inſtant, wherein we requeſt that you will write more frequently; and alſo acquaint you, that lord Clive had left Calcutta the 25th ultimo, to take upon him the command of the army, and jointly with you to conclude a definitive treaty of peace with Sujah Doulah.

Again we exhort you to co-operate heartily with his lordſhip in this neceſſary and ſalutary meaſure, adhering as nearly as poſſible to the preliminaries ſpecified in our inſtructions.

We approve much of your reſolution to put the army into quarters of refreſhment after the fatigue of a long campaign, and we ſubmit intirely to you the choice of thoſe quarters, being with much eſteem,

SIR,

Your moſt humble Servants.

Fort William, the 4th July, 1765.

7th July, 1765. At a Select Committee, Preſent,

W. B. Sumner, Eſq; Preſident
Harry Verelſt, Eſq;
Francis Sykes, Eſq;

Read, approved, and ſigned the proceedings of the 4th inſtant

It appearing from the right honourable the preſident's letter, under date the 3d inſtant, that our plan, formed with a view of giving ſtability to the nabob's government, by dividing the adminiſtration equally between Mahomed Reza Cawn, Juggud Seet, and Dulloobram, is in danger of being ſubverted through the ambition of the latter, and the exceſſive moderation or timidity of the former.

And it likewiſe appearing to the committee of the laſt importance to the company's intereſt to prevent any breach of the plan of the regulations for conducting the country government, as entered in their proceedings of the 21ſt ultimo, to check the aſpiring views of Dulloobram, and to ſupport and maintain each of the three miniſters in the preciſe ſhare of authority allotted to him, without encreaſe or diminution of the power ſpecified in the above-mentioned regulations.

Reſolved, That as the buſineſs of the committee will neceſſarily be at a ſtand until Mr. Verelſt returns from Burdwan, Mr. Sykes be appointed to reſide a few weeks at the Durbar (but without injury or diminution of the weight and influence of the preſent reſident) in order that he may ſupport the preſent eſtabliſhed ſyſtem of adminiſtration, and thereby obviate the bad conſequences which may ariſe to the company from any revolution in the government, at a juncture when the whole attention of the committee is employed on the means to ſecure the future tranquility of the country, to revive our commerce, to perpetuate our revenues, and to eſtabliſh the intereſt of our employers on the moſt ſolid and durable foundation.

Reſolved, That in conſideration of the low ſtate of the treaſury, the right honourable the preſident be requeſted to exert his influence in obtaining five or ſix laaks of rupees for the company, to anſwer immediate exigencies, until the revenues are brought into proper order.

Reſolved alſo, That we acquaint Mr. Middleton, Mr. Sykes intends viſiting the Durbar, to conduct ſome buſineſs now under conſideration of the committee, and deſire that he will aid and aſſiſt him, as far as in his power, in whatſoever he may require.

Agreed, That we write to Lord Clive, to acquaint him of Mr. Sykes's appointment, and that his letter to the committee, together with their's to his lordſhip, and to Mr. Middleton, be entered after the proceedings.

Agreed alſo, that we draw out inſtructions for Mr. Sykes, for the regulation of his conduct at the Durbar.

This month's proceedings
examined by
Edward Baber, Sub-ſecretary.

William B. Sumner.
H. Verelſt.
Francis Sykes.

A Letter

A Letter from the Right Honourable Lord Clive to the Members of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

It is with pleaſure I can acquaint you, that the more I ſee of Mahomed Reza Cawn, the ſtronger is my conviction of his honour and moderation; but at the ſame time I cannot help obſerving, that either from timidity or ſome erroneous principle, he is too ready to ſubmit to encroachments upon that proportion of power in the government which has been allotted him. When we eſtabliſhed him and the other two miniſters, we intended, their departments being diſtinct and ſeparate, that they ſhould never interfere with each other's authority, but preſerve an equal ſway in the management of the nabob's affairs.——Roy Dullub, however, has already attempted to deſtroy this balance of power, and Mahomed Reza Cawn rather approves than reſiſts it; the appointment of all the officers for collecting the revenues is graſped at by the one, and ſubmitted to by the other. This is certainly ſubverſive of our intentions, as it has a tendency to increaſe the power of Roy Dullub, and diminiſh that of Mahomed Rexa Cawn; and I am of opinion, that if we do not prevent it, the government which we ſo deliberately planned for the honour and ſecurity of the nabob will e'er long be diſturbed by jealouſies, diſcord, and numerous other evils which generally prognoſticate a revolution in this country. An early appointment of a proper perſon to reſide at the city, on the part of the company, ſeems to me to be the beſt means of preſerving tranquility. Mr. Sykes is the gentleman we propoſed ſhould fill this employment as ſoon as it might be thought not improper for him to vacate his ſeat in the committee. At preſent to be ſure he cannot be ſpared, except for two or three weeks; and as there will probably be a ſuſpenſion of important buſineſs in the committee till General Carnac and I ſhall have the honour of communicating to you our negociations with Sujah Doulah, I would propoſe that Mr. Sykes ſhould, in the mean time, go to Maxadavad, and remain there about a fortnight; which, I apprehend, would effectually prevent any diſunion among the three miniſters of ſtate, and over-awe that encroachment of one of them which I have repreſented, as they will then be thoroughly convinced of our reſoluion to ſupport the plan we have formed. Mr. Middleton, I think, ſhould be given to underſtand, that Mr. Sykes's viſit at the city will not be to his prejudice; and I make no doubt he will be happy in the honourable and moderate conduct of his ſucceſſor; nor will Mr. Sykes with the company to be at any additional expence for ſo ſhort a reſidence.

If what I have propoſed ſhould meet with your approbation, I ſhall be glad to find it carried into execution as ſoon as poſſible.

I have nothing farther to add at preſent, than my aſſurances of communicating to you punctually, from time to time, ſuch of my tranſactions as I may judge worthy your obſervation, and that I have the honour to be, with great eſteem,

Gentlemen,

Mutyjill, the 3d July, 1765. Your moſt humble Servant,

Clive.

To Samuel Middleton, Eſq; Reſident at the Durbar.

SIR,

Having deputed Mr. Sykes to conduct certain affairs at the Durbar, now immediately under the conſideration of the committee, you are not to regard his viſit as derogating in the ſmalleſt degree from the weight and influence it is propper you ſhould maintain as public reſident from the board.

You will eaſily ſee the impropriety of charging any other than a member of the committee with the management of buſineſs that has not yet been diſcloſed to the board, which alone will ſufficiently point out our intentions.

As Mr. Sykes ſets out unprovided of every thing neceſſary to ſupport the dignity of a deputy from the committee, you will pleaſe to aſſiſt him all in your power with whatever he may require. A company of ſeapoys for his guard will be abſolutely neceſſary.

We are with great eſteem, Sir,

Fort William, the 7th July, 1765. Your moſt humble Servants.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

Laſt night we were honoured with your letter of the 3d, and this morning a committee met to deliberate on the important advices you were pleaſed to communicate.

We concur with your lordſhip in opinion, that it is of the utmoſt conſequence to the company's intereſt, to provide, by every means in our power, againſt any change in

the country government as now eſtabliſhed, and to ſupport that equal partition of power between Mahomed Reza Cawn, Doolubram, and Juggut Seet, as reſolved in our proceedings of the 21ſt ultimo, every encroachment on the ſhare of authority aſſigned to Mahomed Reza Cawn muſt be checked in time, and his timidity and moderation ſuſtained by our influence, in order to demonſtrate that we are determined to ſuffer no violation of our regulations, nor of our agreement, which we regard as equally binding on each of the three miniſters.

For this reaſon we have requeſted of Mr. Sykes to proceed to the Durbar, and remain there as long as he can poſſibly be ſpared from the buſineſs of the committee, that he may have an eye over the conduct of Doolubram, and penetrate whether his views extend to the arrogating to himſelf a greater ſhare of power than we originally intended. This taſk Mr. Sykes has chearfully accepted, without other conſiderations than thoſe of promoting the publick intereſt, and forwarding the meaſures of the committee, and that Mr. Middleton may not conceive himſelf injured by this appointment, we propoſe to acquaint him by letter, that Mr. Sykes's viſit to the Durbar is intended merely to promote certain meaſures now under deliberation in the committee, which cannot with any propriety be truſted in other hands.

The preſent ſtate of the treaſury requires, that we requeſt of your lordſhip to exert your influence in obtaining five or ſix laaks of rupees for the company, to anſwer immediate exigences, until their revenues are reduced into their proper order; after which we have the greateſt proſpect of being able to ſupply every neceſſity from our own collections and duties.

We are farther to requeſt of your lordſhip, that you will direct Mr. George Vanſittart to tranſlate the late regulations of the government, (the original of which you have with you), and tranſmit copies of the ſame to us by the firſt opportunity, it being neceſſary it ſhould appear in our proceedings.

We have the honour to be,

My lord,

Your lordſhip's

moſt obedient,

and moſt humble Servants.

Fort William,
the 7th July, 1765.

To Francis Sykes, Eſquire.

SIR,

Purſuant to our reſolutions of the 7th inſtant, we would recommend to you, that you proceed with all convenient diſpatch to the Durbar, and there ſupport, with all the influence of the committee, thoſe regulations which we lately made for the adminiſtration of the government.

It appears from lord Clive's letter, that dangerous encroachments are deſigned by Doolubram on that balance of power, and partition of authority, which we judge neceſſary to the ſecurity of the preſent eſtabliſhment: he has already infringed on the agreement with his colleagues, and exceeded the line we drew from the limitation of their ſeveral authorities, by claiming to himſelf the right of nominating the officers of the collections. Mahomed Reza Cawn has yielded his point with ſuch eaſineſs of diſpoſition, and apparent averſion to whatever can occaſion diſputes, as will ſerve rather to encourage than to moderate Doolubram's ambition.

You are therefore to keep the moſt watchful eye over this miniſter, to check every ſymptom of his aſpiring at a greater ſhare of the adminiſtration than we have allotted him, to convince him that we are determined to ſupport the preſent regulation of the government, and that any tendency in his conduct to deviate from a meaſure which we conſider as eſſential to the due management of affairs, and the peace and happineſs of the country, will neceſſarily incur our diſpleaſure, and exclude him from the proportion of power he now enjoys.

We have already, in our letter of the 7th to lord Clive, and alſo in our proceeding of that date, touched upon the low condition of the treaſury, requeſting that his lordſhip will exert his influence in obtaining five or ſix laaks of ruupees for the company, to anſwer ſuch exigencies as may occur before their revenues are reduced to the propoſed order. Should therefore our advices to his lordſhip have arrived too late for him to make the neceſſary application, we would recommend it to you, that you promote this meaſure, in the name of the committee, with all your power and intereſt.

As theſe are points of the utmoſt conſequence to the company, we muſt requeſt that you will maintain a conſtant correſpondence with lord Clive, and with us, during your reſidence at the Durbar, which we apprehend need not, at this juncture, exceed the ſpace of three weeks or a month, when your preſence will be neceſſary at the committee.

We ſhall deſire of Mr. Middleton to aid and aſſiſt you all in his power, in whatever you may require;——and that he is to conſider your viſit to the Durbar, as intended only to conduct certain affairs now under conſideration of the committee.

Your

Your own zeal for the publick good, and your prudence, will ſufficiently direct you how to act in other particulars without further inſtructions from us.

We remain, with great eſteem,

For William, SIR,
the 7th July, 1765. Your moſt humble Servants,

No. 85.

Fort William, the 7th June 1765.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Preſident,
William Brightwell Sumner,
Charles Stafford Playdell,
Harry Verelſt,
John Johnſtone,
Francis Sykes,
Ralph Leyceſter, and
John Burdett, Eſquires.

MR. Leyceſter, agreeably to his intimation at the laſt meeting of the board, delivers in the firſt following minute on the ſtyle of the Nabob's letter to the ſelect committee, entered on their proceedings then peruſed,

The Nabob's addreſs to the ſelect committee is a moſt extraordinary production, whether the matter or ſtyle of it be taken into conſideration. It is an appeal to theſe Gentlemen againſt the conduct of a committee of the board, from whom, I ſuppoſe, he would have had redreſs, had he been able to ſupport a complaint of this nature; but, ſo far from that, I believe he has repeatedly expreſſed his content and ſatisfaction in many letters to the governor. Whether I conſider myſelf as a member of this board, or as a Gentleman, I can by no means allow myſelf to be treated with ſuch unbecoming language; nor will the board themſelves, I preſume, deem it decent to have me termed the Vacqueel of Mahomed Reza Cawn, while I have been acting by commiſſion from the board; and I call on you, Gentlemen, to do me juſtice, and muſt requeſt, before I even attempt a refutation of the Nabob's aſſertions, that you inſiſt on apologies being made for the inſult offered this board through me; your ſilence on ſuch an occaſion muſt be interpreted into approbation.

(Signed)
Ralph Leyceſter.

The board are, in conſequence, unanimouſly of opinion, that a letter ſhould be wrote to the Nabob by the preſident, expreſſing, in the ſtrongeſt terms, the impropriety of his uſing ſuch a ſtyle in any repreſentation he might have occaſion to make touching the conduct of the members of the board, which the preſident informs them he ſhall do accordingly.

And Mr. Leyceſter thereupon enters the following further minutes in vindication of his conduct, on the ſubjects of the Nabob's complaints.

The honourable motives on which I acted Muxadabad leave not a wiſh to conceal any part of my tranſactions; I have, however, one objection to entering on my defence, though that ſhall not prevent my attempt to vindicate myſelf to you, Gentlemen; but I think it merits conſideration, how far it appears decent and proper to allow the conduct of a committee, and of courſe the repreſentatives of the whole board, to be thus arraigned for tranſactions which have not at the time been complained of. As my commiſſion terminated a month and a half before the authority of that board expired which made my appointment, I think an appeal ſhould only have been made to thoſe Gentlemen, for the conformity of my conduct to views which the preſent board cannot be ſuch ample judges of. And, that the Nabob and I may not go on in endleſs contradiction of each other, I beg the matter may be put on ſome certain iſſue; and that, if the nabob's aſſertions appear falſe, the board will determine what meaſures to purſue, in order to prevent in future ſuch unwarrantable attacks, which every Gentleman muſt otherwiſe be for ever expoſed to, who ſhall be proſecuting any views that may be injurious to a firſt miniſter or favourite of the nabob. I was aware that if ever Nundcomar was able to influence the nabob, he would urge every thing which malice and villany could invent, out of enmity to me for the ſhare I had in his removal. I am ſorry to ſee the nabob begin his government with a proceeding that muſt create ſo much uneaſineſs and jealouſy between him and ſome members of the council, and which muſt, in a manner, deſtroy all confidence and cordiality between them; but as the particular diſpleaſure expreſſed againſt me by the

nabob

nabob has ſolely been incurred by a ſteady purſuit of the company's welfare, it ſhall not give me much pain; for I am ſenſible their intereſt would have been ſacrificed, had we attended to each idle and evaſive argument with which Nundcomar took care from time to time to ſupply him. But to reply more particularly to the nabob's charge:

Letters of condolance had been wrote from the Governor on his father's death: and the firſt half hour of our firſt interview was employed in compliments of one kind or other. We then acquainted the nabob we had ſome private buſineſs with him, and requeſted he would order his attendants to retire, and that his brother, being young, might do the ſame, which he complied with without reluctance. Mahomed Reza Cawn had already been ordered down from Decca by the board; but it might appear as much as poſſible the nabob's own act, he was alſo deſired to ſend a like order. He, or rather Nundcomar, were guilty of a ſhameful impoſition on our reſidant at the Durbar, on whoſe application, the nabob told him, orders to that effect ſhould be ſent, but tranſmitted orders directly contrary. This was an apparent breach of confidence. Mahomed Reza Cawn had however ſet out, and the nabob was prevailed on by us to ſend his Perwannah for that purpoſe. When he had ſubſcribed to the treaty, he was aſked, when he choſe to be ſeated on the Muſhnud; then, or when Mahomed Reza Cawn arrived? He choſe the latter, willing, and I believe altogether, to defer it, in daily hopes of receiving ſunnuds from the king, from which authority he rather wiſhed to hold his government. The morning before we went to the Kellah, we acquainted the nabob, that as we had particular buſineſs to tranſact with him, it would be adviſeable that he ſhould receive us in a private apartment, and not in the Dewan Connah; and that no miſtake might happen in this meſſage, it was committed to writing; nor did I ever ſee the nabob, except the day he was ſeated on the Muſhnud, in any other apartment than that in which he firſt received us. It is abſolutely falſe, that he was told not to ſit in his Dewan Connah till Mahomed Reza Cawn's arrival; that he muſt live in the place he was; or that he muſt put a ſtop to all buſineſs. Mahomed Reza Cawn, I think, arrived the third day after our firſt viſit.

We found that people about the nabob had endeavoured to inſpire him with a ſuſpicion of our deſigning to ſeat Mahomed Reza Cawn on the Muſhnud; but when we pointed out to him the improbability of ſuch intent, and how needleſs our preſent declarations in his favour were, had we any ſuch view, he ſeemed ſatisfied, and called on us to pledge our honour to the performance of the treaty, which he read over two or three times. He endeavoured to evade coming to any point, wanted to conſult Nundcomar, and to have him to bring the paper of advice of his deceaſed father. We knew this was only to gain time, and that a delay would only increaſe every difficulty we had to contend with. We replied we came not to treat with Nundcomar, but with him; that the council and the Engliſh were heartily inclined to his intereſt; and that he ſhould only conſider them as his friends and protectors. I do not recollect the uſe of thoſe words about the paper of advice; but probably he was told it was his beſt part to act conformably to the council's ſentiments, fully expreſſed in the treaty. After diſcuſſing over every article of the treaty three or four times, and taking pains to make him underſtand it, we preſſed his acceptance, and ſeemingly ſatisfied his principal objection; ſtill he deſired to have Nundcomar's opinion, but when we ſaw he had been tutored to do nothing without his concurrence, and that he was ſure to encourage the nabob to the warmeſt oppoſition, we pointed out to him the neceſſity of his complying with the reſolutions of the board, and that we could not acknowledge him as Soubah till he had promiſed his aſſent. This was not, I believe, told him in the terms he has uſed, though it was my firm opinion, and I believe it was the board's, that he ought never to be acknowledged on any terms that ſhould ſtill leave the ſole power in the hands of Nundcomar, whoſe character was even then at leaſt a very doubtful one. He ſpoke at that time very handſomely of Mahomed Reza Cawn, and only mentioned what he ſays about the Dacca collections: he at laſt promiſed his compliance. Nundcomar and others were called in, and upon their beginning to ſtart objections, they were told, we were not come to receive their opinion, but to negotiate with the nabob. Some one, I forget who, propoſed that the treaty with his father ſhould be ſent for. Some of us remarked it was unneceſſary, as the additional articles had been particularly pointed out; however, the treaty was brought. When it was firſt called for, we were told, a Faquir had the treaty, who was ſitting upon a Mir Jaffier's tomb ſome miles from the Kellah; but upon finding ſuch evaſions would not avail, it was preſently produced. No Moonſhy was turned out as mentioned by the nabob, though one was checked for offering his ſentiments and objections.

He then goes on to ſay, Mahomed Reza Cawn has taken twenty laaks out of his treaſury and diſtributed it without his knowledge for ſecuring his naibſhip: this is a moſt ſhameful inſinuation, and appears ſo indirectly levelled at thoſe who ſupported this meaſure, that I muſt take notice of it, though done, I believe, ſolely with a view to injure

Mahomed

Mahomed Reza Cawn. The opinion, I entertain of Mahomed Reza Cawn's underſtanding and integrity inclines me to believe this a groundleſs aſſertion. If he has done ſo, I will allow I have miſtaken his character; and I can declare, and am ready to declare on oath, that I have never received a ſingle rupee from Mahomed Reza Cawn. The other reflections thrown out on Mahomed Reza Cawn, he will, I hope, be able to clear up to the board's ſatisfaction; and if we conſider the ſtruggle the nabob has made to have that villian Nundcomar ſtill about him, no man will be ſurpriſed at the attack on Mahomed Reza Cawn, or thoſe who promoted him; and when all circumſtances are taken into view, I can only be amazed to find ſuch a ſeeming degree of credit given to the nabob's aſſertions, which, I think, muſt appear to every unprejudiced perſon the performance of Nundcomar, who has ſuch an influence over the nabob, as to make him believe all thoſe enemies to himſelf who have been concerned in his removal. Though four gentlemen were appointed on the deputation, and concurred in every meaſure, Mr. Johnſton and I only are named, Mr. Johnſton we are told was ſuppoſed to be privioully at enmity with Nundcomar; and I, who never, but the day I took my leave, ſaw the nabob, except in the preſence of Meſſrs. Johnſton, Senior, and Middleton, am particularly attacked, by reaſon, I ſuppoſe of my repeated refuſal of large offers made me by Nundcomar for ſupport, and on account of what immediately followed regarding Nundcomar when I returned to the board; I am fully perſuaded that Nundcomar is the ſole author of this addreſs from the nabob; and am, I confeſs, very much provoked to think that that villain ſhall entertain a momentary hope of gratifying his reſentment by urging the nabob to this attack, for from himſelf I am poſitive it could not have proceeded. All the difficulties and all the uneaſineſs we had in executing our commiſſion at the city, proceeded from Nundcomar and his creatures, as we repeatedly informed the board. The nabob of himſelf made but weak objections, and ſuch ſeemed removed by the arguments we uſed, till he was again tutored by Nundcomar, when he would as flatly contradict himſelf as a man poſſibly could; he complained to the board very bitterly of our proceedings about Nundcomar, when we were ordered to ſend him down; relates a long hiſtory, which he the day before declared he had never heard of, and alledges that we obliged him to ſign ſuch a paper as we thought proper. This was Nundcomar's laſt ſtruggle, at leaſt it would have been the laſt, had not he and the nabob been taught to expect an intire change upon the arrival of lord Clive and the committee. As the nabob had confidence enough to exclaim againſt us to the board in ſuch terms, why failed he to add what he now urges? the paper he ſays we forced from him regarded only Nundcomar. I am firmly perſuaded that the ſame influence, which has on ſeveral occaſions led the nabob into the moſt palpable contradictions, has now urged him to theſe ſhameful inſinuations, in hopes of aſſiſting Nundcomar by this attack on thoſe who promoted his removal. No confidence can be placed in his word and promiſe ſo long as Nundcomar or his creatures have acceſs to him; and I am ſatisfied if they were removed he would ſoon reflect on the impropriety of his preſent conduct, and repent of it.

I admit the nabob was at firſt much averſe to the appointments the board had made; whence aroſe it? From the inſinuations of Nundcomar, as I before ſaid, that we really meant to place Mahomed Reza Cawn on the Muſhnud; when he was convinced of our real deſign, and had engaged us to pledge our honours to the performance of the treaty, he appeared more ſatisfied, and would I believe have remained ſo, had he not been encouraged to expect the releaſe and reinſtatement of Nundcomar on lord Clive's arrival. And if we were neceſſitated to urge ſome points in terms we would wiſh to have avoided, we were drove to it by the oppoſition we met with from Nundcomar and his adherents. It was our deſire and our aim to treat the nabob with a becoming reſpect; but the ſtruggles of thoſe people to thwart every meaſure the board had recommended, obliged us now and then to enforce them in more poſitive terms, and to explain to them the miſchiefs they would unavoidably draw upon themſelves by ſuch a procedure, and how evidently they were ſacrificing the nabob's welfare to their private views. I always eſteemed it a conteſt with the nabob's officers, not with him; the executing the ſervice we were ſent on alone engaged us in many diſagreeable altercations; and I am perſuaded had we been leſs earneſt it would not have been accompliſhed.

The company have by this treaty an additional income confirmed to them of ſixty laaks of rupees per annum, have the whole military force of the province in their own hands, and have obtained the power of interfering more or leſs in the affairs of government, and nomination of its officers, as circumſtances may render neceſſary for their welfare and ſucceſs: more they can ſcarce wiſh; and in my opinion a leſs influence could not have been inſiſted on without a ſacrifice of their intereſt, had Nazem o Dowla been once acknowledged by the board Soubah, on the terms of, or without any additional articles to, his father's treaty, neither juſtice nor honour could have afterwards warranted our impoſing on him any other terms; but when the government was become vacant, which could only be ſecured to Nazem o Dowla by the power of the company's

force, we had a right to preſcribe ſuch condition for that ſupport as ſeemed moſt conducive to their welfare, on which the nabob's indeed does now ſo intimately depend; where no public treaties of promiſes are infringed, no tie, no regard to Mir Jaffier's family can ſtand in competition with their intereſts; and I eſteem myſelf happy in having had a ſhare in confirming to the company ſuch deſirable benefits.

R. Leyceſter.

The preſident now informs the board, that he ſummoned their meeting to-day in order to lay before them an extract of the proceedings of a ſelect committee held the 16th inſtant, in conſequence of the reſolution record in their laſt, communicated to the board, which he does accordingly, and the ſame having been peruſed is returned to him.

Some debate paſſing thereupon, on the ſubject of receiving preſents from government and the officers of it;

Mr. Johnſon deſires the queſtion, whether the acceptance of all preſents is improper? may be put ſeverally to the members of the board for their opinions.

The ſame being put accordingly;

Mr. Burdett is of opinion, That ſuch preſents may be received or not, according to the particular circumſtances. That the nabob has a right to diſpoſe of his own property; and that the preſents on the occaſion in queſtion might with great propriety be received.

Mr. Leyceſter, That where they are not the price of ſervices they may very properly be received.

Mr. Sykes, That preſents at all times from the nabob or his officers are very improper, as tending to the prejudices of the company's intereſts.

Mr. Johnſton minutes it as his opinion, That where they are not the price of unworthy ſervices, and no truſt is betrayed for the acceptance of them, is no way improper; and in the preſent caſe, as being previous to the execution of the deed of covenant, as warrantable as in time paſt, by any who have received them.

Mr. Verelſt is of opinion, That the receiving of preſents at a time the board are doing their duty in ſupporting the government, and in the intereſt of the company, is highly improper, and the more ſo in the preſent inſtance, ſince he is informed that the company's orders and covenants were arrived in Calcutta before the tender of them.

Mr. Playdell agrees in the opinion given by Mr. Leyceſter.

Mr. Sumner is of opinion that the acceptance of preſents after the receipt of the company's orders to the contrary, and the covenants, was very improper.

The preſident's.

That no preſents whatever ought to have been accepted after the receipt of the covenants, except in the manner ſpecified therein.

Fort William, the 11th June, 1765.

Mr. Leyceſter now delivers in the following minute on ſubject of the laſt ſelect committee proceedings peruſed at the board.

When the company's intereſt were altogether ſecured, and the orders of the board fully executed, it is very true that I accepted of a preſent from the nabob; I never made a ſecret of it, as the cuſtom of this country on ſuch occaſions, well known to every body, ſanctifies the acceptance; and where preſents have not been eſteemed the price of improper ſervices, I never heard a reflection caſt on thoſe who did receive them. I went up to the city without the thought of any private emolument, preſuming the benefit I had to inſiſt on for the company would render me too obnoxious to be conſidered as others have been on like occaſions; many have felt the benefits of ſuch a cuſtom, and when I had done my duty to the company, I thought myſelf at liberty to accept a preſent from the nabob, which I am conſident can in no ſhape prove injurious to the company; whilſt the ſettlement of the government was under conſideration, I declined every overture that was made; many knew that ſuch were made in Calcutta, and honourably refuſed. Mr. Spencer, though he afterwards accepted an offer of two lacks from the nabob, refuſed a previous one of eleven lacks; this offer alone conſiderably exceeded the whole of what the nabob afterwards gave, and might have been received by Mr. Spencer, could he have been brought to think it conſiſtent with the intereſt of the company to have deferred for a ſhort time the ſettlement of the government affairs. The man who came down from the city to make this offer to Mr. Spencer, waited alſo on me with the ſame intent; he told me he had particular buſineſs, and deſired me to allow his coming to me in a more private manner, which I declined, as I knew his errand, and was reſolved not to accept any offer he could make. Again, while I was at the city, offers were repeatedly made me from Nundcomar on the part of the nabob, as well as of himſelf, which I as oft refuſed; and as I gave no encouragement

ment to ſuch meſſages no particular ſums were named, but it was ſaid they ſhould be ſuch as would fully ſatisfy me, if I would but endeavour to keep things in the ſtate they were. And it is certain, if we had ſet quiet in Calcutta immenſe fortunes might have been made, could we have brought ourſelves to accept them on ſuch terms.

All previous offers having been thus refuſed, it was intimated to Mahomed Reza Cawn, when the buſineſs was all ſettled, that he might hint to the nabob, that our former objections no longer ſubſiſting, we were ready to receive any marks of his favour, as the nabob's previous offers were a proof of his intent to make preſents. Theſe intimations did not ſeem improper; I know of no argumenss being uſed to make Mahomed Reza Cawn think he would have offended us by declining this; and, if I recollect right, he told us the firſt motion came from the nabob; when the paper was preſented by the nabob, we more than once told him we wanted no ſuch offer if it was not entirely with his own inclination, which he repeatedly aſſured us it was; and I am confident the gifts to us were the real conſequence of cuſtom on like occaſions.

Mahomed Reza Cawn made the offer he ſpeaks of, but I did not know that the arguments he mentions were made uſe of to him; when every thing which regarded Mahomed Reza Cawn appeared ſettled, I thought there could be no impropriety in my acceptance of his offers; but afterwards, when I recollected that his appointment might one day or other become a matter of conteſt, I reſolved not to give the ſmalleſt room for any imputation of my being improperly influenced, and therefore declined accepting a bill of fifty thouſand rupees which he ſent me down; I never took it into my poſſeſſion, and as a proof that I did not intend it, I ſubſcribed to the covenants while I had ſo large a ſum in my power; and I could produce letters in teſtimony of my reſolution not to receive it; if Mahomed Reza Cawn has not been properly adviſed of this my reſolution, it has not been owing to any miſtake of mine. As to Juggut Seat's, I ſay that before I left Muxadavid it had been intimated that he was deſirous of making a preſent, and that his father had made preſents on like occaſions with a view to raiſe the credit of his houſe. We had treated Juggut Seat with particular reſpect and civility, but I ſaw no reaſon for ſuch offers; I always underſtood they came firſt from him, and am totally ignorant of the arguments he mentions having been uſed to induce him to make them. This I know of Juggut Seat's offer, when I returned to Calcutta, and ten thouſand rupees for his houſe was afterwards received on my account; it has always been my opinion, that in a country not under the moſt abſolute tyranny, every man's property was at his own diſpoſal, and every one was at liberty to accept what was offered without fear or compulſion, the ſame not being a conſideration for improper ſervices: the adopting oppoſite maxims is contrary to the known practice of thoſe who have gone before us; and though abſolute orders, with a penalty annexed, may make the receiving the preſents improper and inconvenient, yet they cannot alter the rectitude of the act itſelf; and I will venture to appeal to the common ſentiments of mankind, which I am perſuaded will condemn that man as a very abſurd one, who, having an opportunity of obtaining a comfortable maintenance for no diſhonourable ſacrifice, ſhould decline the occaſion.

However, I do not ſee with what candour or propriety any body can enquire into a circumſtance of this kind; if Juggut Seat had been oppreſſed, he knew, or ſhould be told, that his appeal was to the board. It does not appear he of himſelf made any ſuch complaint; if leading queſtions were put, they were improper, he would from thence diſcover that ſuch an intimation of what he gave would be agreeable; and I would be glad to know if he was not called on to commit theſe circumſtances in writing.

I think the committee did only their duty in laying before the board the nabob's addreſs to them, but that the ſubſequent meaſures ſhould have been taken in the preſence of and with the concurrence of the board. The committee ſummoning any perſons before them to impeach the members of this board, is in my opinion extremely improper.

If any intereſt of the company has been ſacrificed to private views, it is incumbent on every good ſervant to point out ſuch miſconduct; but where preſents have not been accepted for any ſuch ſacrifice, I am ſure it is doing the company no ſervice to be making ſuch minute reſearches into occurrences of this kind, unleſs complaints of oppreſſion are firſt made, and then the enquiry ſhould be as free and open as poſſible.

It is true that the covenants had arrived before theſe preſents were accepted, which the then governor and council, for reaſons they would have aſſigned to the company, thought proper to defer putting in force. Many inſtances of a like deviation may be quoted without incurring the diſpleaſure of our honourable maſters, as I truſt will be the preſent caſe.

Since the conteſts which have prevailed amongſt the proprietors at home, the orders from the court of directors have been ſo fluctuating, that it has really been difficult to collect the ſentiments that were to guide our conduct abroad.

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It has been intimated that the covenants were rather the effect of party, than the cool ſentiments of our maſters; and I have heard it was probable, parties would unite in aboliſhing covenants, that could only injure individuals, and do the company no ſervice. And indeed had theſe been executed without aſſurances of the inland trade being put on a proper footing, no man could have honeſtly got a competence in their ſervice; a ſtrict obſervance of the order about the inland trade had very materially injured many of our fortunes, and that even at a time when the orders were repeated. We might as well expect the aboliſhing the covenants; and why, in a ſecond inſtance, were we to lay ourſelves under reſtrictions unknown to any of our predeceſſors, at a time when it was poſſible the very orders for that purpoſe were revoked. I urge theſe as arguments which probably might induce the then governor and council not to inforce the covenants, and in oppoſition to the ſtreſs which ſome members of the board lay on the ſuppoſed breach of thoſe orders; had the authority then ſubſiſting thought proper to put them in force, obedience would have been my part; and I believe though the company's orders about the inland trade and taffals, were well known to the ſervants, that no individual judged them obligatory on himſelf till the board's orders in conſequence were iſſued

When the nabob complained of the proceedings of the deputation of this board, it was very proper his letter to the committee ſhould be laid before the board; and the nabob ſhould at the ſame time have been informed, that the power of cenſuring the members of this board reſted only with the preſident and council, from whom we might expect all poſſible protection and redreſs.

Mahomed Reza Cawn ſhould have been examined in preſence of the board only, on the nabob's charge of his having diſtributed, unknown to him, twenty laaks for the purchaſe of his preſent employ.

Beyond the charge that there was made, nothing ſhould have been fought for or enquired into. Mahomed Reza Cawn had been led to the mention of circumſtances he would wiſh to have concealed, and as well as I can recollect or know, has been miſtaken in part of his detail. Where charges are made, juſtice to the accuſed and accuſer demands an examination; but it ſhould not be the buſineſs of any perſon to be ſeeking occaſions of this kind.

On the whole, if I have received preſents, I have ſacrificed no intereſts of the company's in order to obtain them; the preſents that were made me, I conceived to be willingly and voluntarily made; if it has been otherwiſe, the firſt injury has been done me in not making it known to me. My declining to receive the fifty thouſand rupees ſent by Mahomed Reza Cawn, from a determination not to give the leaſt room to ſuppoſe me in properly influenced, and my refuſal of repeated offers made through Nundcomar, are very ſtrong preſumptive proofs, that I would not benefit my fortune by any means that I thought could poſſibly be deemed improper.

R. Leyceſter.

Fort William, the 17th June, 1765.

Mr. Leyceſter delivers in the following further minute on the proceedings of the ſelect committee of the 7th and 8th inſtant.

The proceedings of the ſelect committee of the 7th, wherein the evidence of one Mootyram is recited, would ſeem to imply a ſuppoſed colluſion in my refuſal of Mahomed Reza Cawn's bill for Rs. 50,000, which obliges me to remark further, that I firmly believe the man was never authoriſed to deliver the meſſage mentioned, but to return the bill unconditionally into the hands of Mahomed Reza Cawn. Nothing ever paſſed between me and Mootyram, Buſſuntroy, or any of his people, on the ſubject of this bill; but I did imagine it had been received back by Mahomed Reza Cawn.

No ſuch converſation as mentioned in Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, No. 1, ever paſſed in my preſence. I have already declared myſelf ignorant of the arguments related in Mahomed Reza Cawn's narrative, No. 2, having been uſed to induce him to make preſents. I always believed his offer came firſt from himſelf; but as much ſtreſs ſeems laid on the bill's having been tendered by Mootyram the day before this narrative was laid before the board, I muſt obſerve that I know not of ſuch bills having been iſſued by Mahomed Reza Cawn till the fifth May; that on the 9th I ſigned the covenants, and on the 15th I wrote to a gentleman at Coſſimbuzar, that if the whole of the nabob's offer had not been paid, none was to have been received after that day, a proof that I would not have been guilty of a breach of them; and it is evident I had not received the bill in queſtion. On the 22d, I wrote to the ſame gentleman in the following words:

You know the objections I made at Muxadabah to receive a preſent from the quarter you mention; they appear as ſtrong as ever; for though it would not in the leaſt bias

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my conduct, I would not put it in any body's power to ſuppoſe a view to it could have had influence in the choice of Mahomed Reza Cawn, whoſe abilities and character were my ſole inducement for wiſhing to have ſo large a ſhare of the government under him. The draft you mention was ſent down; but I decline the acceptance of it, though I have yet been ſilent to Mahomed Reza Cawn, leſt he ſhould apprehend, from my refuſal at this time, a reſolution to forſake him, as is a common notion in this country. I have not a thought, however, to accept it.

The bill had never been put into my hands, nor in the hands of any of my people. The perſon who acquainted me that Moutyram had ſuch, was deſired to direct him to return them; and, as I never heard more of them, I did believe Mahomed Reza Cawn had poſſeſſion of them, till his narrative was laid before the board.

I muſt particularly remark on the minute entered on cloſe of the committee proceedings of the by deſire of Mahomed Reza Cawn, That I never heard him mention a ſyllable about a preſent from himſelf; that I never knew he aſked if the preſent he propoſed was to be a general affair, or if the other gentlemen of council were to have a ſhare; or that he was anſwered, This muſt be for us; let them look to themſelves. He ſays the deputies made this reply; I declare, I never knew of ſuch queſtion, or ſuch reply.

I had heard the nabob intended preſents; but I knew not the ſum allotted me till Mahomed Reza Cawn preſented the paper, by order of the nabob, who, I conceived, had himſelf aſſigned that particular ſum.

There is no one circumſtance collected through the whole of their inquiries, which I know of, that I would not have communicated, had I been properly called on; and though the diſagreeable terms, in which it has been endeavoured to diſcloſe the ſecret of theſe preſents, of which no ſecret was made, has obliged me to inſiſt particularly on my declining to accept Mahomed Reza Cawn's bill, yet, conſidering the manner and time it was offered to me, I ſhould not have thought the acceptance any ways diſhonourable.

As nothing paſſed perſonally between me and the Seats, ſo as to make me quite poſitive that the preſent he made was with his own inclinations, though I never before had a doubt of it; and as the meſſages ſaid to be delivered by Mootyram implies ſome unwillingneſs on his part; I acquaint the board, that my intention was, to order back to the Seat's houſe what was thence received on my account, and am ready to make oath, that I was totally ignorant of the meſſage ſaid to be delivered to the Seats on this ſubject.

The declarations I have already made, touching this matter, and my declining to accept Mahomed Reza Cawn's bill for 50,000 rupees, which I might, if I had choſe, been this moment in poſſeſſion of, will, I ſhall preſume, ſufficiently evince the rectitude of my intentions through the whole of this tranſaction.

R. Leyceſter.

Meſſrs. Playdell and Gray alſo enter the following minutes on the whole of the proceedings on the ſame ſubject.

Obſerving my name inſerted, with other gentlemens, in a paper laid before the board the 7th inſtant, containing a liſt of ſeveral ſums of money the nabob complains have been diſtributed by Mahomed Reza Cawn without his knowledge amongſt different gentlemen, as I am entirely ignorant of ſuch unjuſt meaſures having been taken, and cannot ſuppoſe it to be true, I deſire to vindicate my own character, and clear myſelf of ſuch an allegation, by declaring I knew nothing of the matter until informed by a gentleman of the board, that it was the nabob's intentions to make the council a preſent; and, as I underſtood this was entirely the free will of the nabob, I, on that account, received what was ſent me, I knowing it to be on no other footing whatever.

Cs. Sd. Playdell.

Mr. Gray's name being inſerted in the paper laid before the board by the preſident, on the 7th inſtant, relative to preſents from the nabob, he ſolemnly declares, that no requeſt or ſolicitation was made on his part to obtain any preſent or gratification whatever; nor was he informed that a preſent was intended, till it was actually tendered. He further aſſures the board, he would not have accepted of it, had he not been fully ſatisfied it flowed from the nabob's free inclination. He knew not of, and never ſhould have conſented to have uſed perſuaſion, far leſs threats, to obtain preſents from any perſon, and he has all along entertained too good an opinion of the members of this board, to ſuppoſe any of them capable of ſuch an underhand proceeding. However, if allegations of this nature are laid to the charge of any, they cannot affect thoſe gentlemen who, being in Calcutta, could have no opportunity of uſing improper means to acquire preſents; and that they did not, appears very evidently from what Mahomed Reza Cawn obſerves in the latter part of his declaration to the ſelect committee.

It can never be thought, that for this gratification, he gave up a ſingle advantage he could have acquired for the honourable company. He was a member of that board who procured an additional yearly revenue of eighty laaks of rupees to the poſſeſſions they held before; making, with theſe, in all, at leaſt one million eight hundred thouſand pounds ſterl. per annum. Had the gentlemen of council been diſpoſed to ſpare the nabob in his aſſignments, he would have given them much larger ſums, and no complaints would have made their appearance.

Certain, therefore, that what he received was the effect of the nabob's free will, he perceived no impropriety in benefiting by his Excellency's bounty, on an occaſion where former precedents have warranted the acceptance, and where his conſcience could not tax him with the ſmalleſt breach of the truſt repoſed in him by his employers. It is true, the covenants had come to hand ſome time before Mr. Gray's arrival from Maulda; but they had not been executed by any of the board, all of whom concurred in deeming them the greateſt ſeverity the honourable company could impoſe on their ſervants, and agreed to write home a remonſtrance to our employers, ſetting forth the particular hardſhip, not doubting but, on a due repreſentation, they would repeal them: This they were encouraged to hope from ſeveral inſtances of orders detrimental to the company's ſervants having been reverſed on a proper application. However, the attention of the board being deeply engaged on the tranſactions ſubſequent to the late nabob's death, the taking the covenants into conſideration was poſtponed, and never reſumed till Lord Clive's arrival. Mr. Gray conſidered the covenants as meant to be a check upon fraud, or rendering the government ſervices with a view of ſome pecuniary gratification, without conſidering the company's advantage. But, in laying this reſtriction on thoſe they might ſuſpect baſe enough to betray their truſt for a bribe, they have alſo cut off from their honeſt and faithful ſervants of the preſent ſtanding, the advantages which were enjoyed without reſtriction by thoſe of former times; a particular of ſeverity with which Mr. Gray cannot believe the honourable company meant to ſtigmatize or to diſtreſs the preſent ſet of ſervants; for our employers muſt entertain a reproachful opinion of us, if they believe the reſtraint of conſcience, heretofore conſidered a ſufficient tye on the conduct of our predeceſſors in the ſervice, is not enough to bind our hands from doing them injuſtice; and to cut off from their ſervants every ſource of benefit which their ſervice affords, is ſurely diſtreſſing them in the ſevereſt degree. The ſalt and inland trade was ſome time ago very beneficial; but the company believing it was a principal occaſion of, although he is convinced it was in fact only a pretext for, the war with Mir Coſſim, ſeemed determined to reduce it and deprive us of that ſource. The foreign Marine trade was once a fund of advantage to the company's ſervants, but that was before Suraja Dowla's war, when commerce flouriſhed both in Bengal and in the Marts abroad; ſince that time, the internal commotions in which theſe countries, wherein the principal part of our trade uſed to be carried on, as well as Bengal itſelf, have been involved, have rendered that branch ſo very precarious, that voyages miſcarry as often as ſucceed; and the company's ſervants, eſpecially thoſe ſtationed at ſubordinate factories, labour under particular inconvenience in this trade; for through want of time and opportunity to apply to it properly, and to inform themſelves of every requiſite for carrying it on, the free merchants have the greateſt advantage over them. The latter are at liberty to proceed on their voyages, and can themſelves diſpoſe of, or purchaſe, goods to the beſt account at the foreign markets, thereby ſaving many charges, as well as devoting that care and attention to their own concerns which can ſcarcely be expected from agents, whom we are under the neceſſity of employing: Very different was the ſituation of the gentlemen of the ſervice in that period he has mentioned, from the preſent; ſecure in their perſons and properties, and enjoying a profound tranquility, they ſaw the profits of their trade coming in regularly to them; but ever ſince Mr. Gray has had the honour to ſerve the company, there has been almoſt a conſtant ſeries of warfare in Bengal; he has been witneſs to two revolutions, wherein the greateſt part of his moſt intimate friends have fallen the unfortunate victims of Mooriſh barbarity; at both times, his life in ſuch imminent danger, that he can attribute his eſcape from the unhappy fate that attended his fellow-ſervants, to the interpoſition of Providence alone; his property ſeized by the rapacious relentleſs enemy; his circumſtances brought to the loweſt brink of ruin, not only by the loſs of his own fortune; but alſo by the accumulation of a heavy debt taken up in the courſe of his trade, for which he was anſwerable, without the means left to diſcharge it; his health deſtroyed by the fatigues and hardſhips he underwent, and himſelf reduced to the utmoſt diſtreſs and miſery, as well from affliction from the ſufferings of thoſe held moſt dear to him, as from the conſideration of his own misfortunes; the very idea of what he has endured, ſhocks his recollection, and the precarioufneſs of his ſituation, and the viciſſitudes to which he has been ſubjected, have painted forth independance to him in too deſirable colours to admit of his ſelf-denial, when he can obtain it without the leaſt deviation from that integrity and fidelity to the intereſt

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of his employers, which he has ever made the rule of his conduct; nor could it have been expected, that whilſt his hands were not tied up by thoſe covenants to which his will did not conſent, and which, though ordered, he did not conceive to be ſo poſitively enjoined as totally to exclude all expoſtulation, and even without any penalty in caſe of refuſal; from whence it might be inferred, the company would not inſiſt on their execution, if their ſervants were from reaſonable motives averſe from them. Under theſe circumſtances, Mr. Gray ſays, it could not be expected, that he would reject a preſent offered to his hands from a government that could very well afford it; he conſidered it as ſome compenſation for his ſufferings, as well as for the deficiency in his loſſes not made up by the public reſtitution; for, although it is true, that after our enemies were drove out of the provinces, reſtitution was allowed for the damages we had ſuſtained, yet it was on a footing that ſtill left the ſufferers conſiderable loſers; the goods plundered or deſtroyed were rated at the prime coſt and charges, and a very unequivalent advance for riſk, with an allowance of ten per cent. on the whole for intereſt. This valuation of the goods was very ſhort of the price they would have ſold at, and the allowance was leſs than a third part of the real intereſt; for it is now above three years that we have laid out of our money, and but one year's intereſt is given. He means not here to blame thoſe gentlemen who ſtipulated the terms of this reſtitution, for he thinks the whole of our loſſes was more than the nabob could then bear to diſcharge; but he ſtates the caſe fairly betwixt the government and himſelf; and if what he has loſt by them be compared to what is ſet down to his account, in the end he would have to receive a balance.

On the whole, Mr. Gray, deprived, as he believed, of the only trade by which he could raiſe any benefit, and unprovided for by the honourable company with an allowance adequate to his neceſſary expences, accepted of the preſent offered him, on conviction it was intirely conſiſtent both with his duty and the honour. He hopes that what he has urged will prove ſatisfactory to his employers, and procure him their conſent and approbation.

George Gray.

Mr. Burdett likewiſe enters the following minute:

As Mr. Playdell and Mr. Gray have thought it neceſſary to clear up their characters from the imputation of having extorted preſents from the nabob, I likewiſe beg leave to inform the board that I looked upon the 50,000 rupees ſent me as a vuluntary gift from the nabob, and in ſuch light only I received it; the manner in which it was paid will I preſume ſufficiently exculpate me from that heavy charge of extortion. I cannot look upon myſelf as culpable in receiving preſents before the covenants were ſigned; ſo far from it, I muſt ingenuouſly confeſs, that had ten times the ſum been offered in the ſame manner I received the firſt, and my covenants not ſigned, I ſhould without the leaſt ſcruple have received it, well ſatisfied that I was doing no more than thoſe who came before me; nor ſhould I then have acknowledged the power of any committee to arraign my conduct, unleſs they ſhewed me a ſpecial power for that purpoſe from thoſe only whom I eſteem my maſters.

John Burdett.

Mr. Johnſton having agreeably to his application received the copies of the whole proceedings, ſends in his anſwer to them in the following minute:

The ſelect committe have been pleaſed to lay before the board ſeveral narratives of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggutſeet, touching preſents that have been made to ſundry gentlemen by the nabob, and which in their proceedings they call evidence of the greateſt conſequence.

As no complaint was made, either before or now to the board, by either Mahomed Reza Cawn, Juggetſeet, or the nabob, againſt the gentlemen therein mentioned, that any unfair means or compulſion had been uſed towards obtaining theſe preſents, nor any redreſs ſued for, I am at a loſs to know whoſe ſuit I am to reply to, or to whom as judges I am accountable. The nabob's addreſſes and letters to the ſelect committee, accuſing Mahomed Reza Cawn of having given away without his knowledge twenty laaks of money and goods to different people to ſecure him in his naibſhip; this was laid before the board, and it reſted with Mahomed Reza Cawn to diſprove this, and to ſhew he had iſſued no money againſt the nabob's inclination, but with his conſent and order under his hand and ſeal.

The committee however, aſſuming as it would appear the office of inquiſitors, call upon Mahomed Reza Cawn to declare before them on oath, not only to the matter laid againſt him, but whatever elſe he knew, or they pleaſed to aſk, touching his own concerns: from him overawed by the opinion of their ſupreme power, on which his poſt and honours depends, and that nothing of conſequence now reſts with the council, they extort what they call evidence of the greateſt conſequence.

Juggetſeet in like manner, without having made any complaint of oppreſſion, compulſion, or any injury being done his buſineſs, is now called upon for his evidence on his obſervation of meſſages being delivered; they being ſent as repreſented is falſe, and

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can never be proved. The committee would ground a charge of which they would become the judges, and are themſelves the complainants.

To ſupport theſe evidences thus procured, Mooteram, who is mentioned as the perſon entruſted by the gentlemen, is arreſted at Calcutta by a party of ſeapoys, confined cloſe priſoner in his houſe under a ſerjeant's guard, with all the terrors attending a man already convicted and condemned of capital offences; thence he is brought next day with his military guards attending him, and ignorant of our laws and rights, obliged, contrary to all law, to ſwear that he will anſwer all the queſtions they ſhall pleaſe to put to him, whether to get him to betray the confidence they imagine may have been repoſed in him, or that tend to condemn himſelf.

Buſſuntroy, his duan, ſuppoſed alſo entruſted by Mooteram, is in like manner ſeized by ſeapoys, and under this terror and confuſion hurried before his accuſers and judges, and obliged to give evidence on oath to all queſtions put to him to betray the ſecrets of of his maſter, or make againſt himſelf.

Had Mooteram been accuſed of any capital crime, or of having done any thing contrary to law, if ſubject to be tried by the laws of our country, under the Engliſh flag, and by Engliſhmen acting with a lawful authority as his judges, we preſume in an open and public manner, he ought to have had his indictment, and been allowed counſel, a liberty never denied to any under the protection of the Engliſh government, and who has like him a houſe and family within their land, inſtead of being ſhut up, and denied communication with any but with his menial ſervants; counſel was allowed Ramchurn, and I believe to others tried before the honourable board, and Nundcomar was promiſed an open and fair trial.

Mooteram, though he is in the preſent employ of the nabob, has his houſe and family in the company's diſtrict, and under the company's protection, in whoſe ſervice he has been for many years. He is not impeached by the nabob, nor any charge laid againſt him in particular that appears; but if he were, a fair trial, had the nabob ſubmitted him to the committee as his judges, was what he had a right to expect, and that he ſhould not be thus compelled by force, impriſonment, and fear of his life and honour, to give evidence that might make againſt himſelf, or in order to be brought as a proof againſt any ſubject of Britain, and enjoying the rights and protection of her laws and liberties. I do therefore for myſelf object to and deny ſuch evidence, and enter my ſolemn proteſt againſt every matter or evidence that has been and ſhall be obtained from either Mahomed Reza Cawn, Juggutſeet, Mooteram, Buſſunt Roy, or any other perſon where ſuch undue influence, unlawful means, and violence has been or ſhall be uſed to get them to declare or to anſwer on oath to all queries that ſhould be put to them while under reſtraint, impriſonment, and fear; and that I will anſwer to no charge or imputation found on ſuch. I think it proper however to declare, and am ready to take my oath, that I never did authorize Mooteram or any other perſon to aſk preſents of Juggutſeet in improper or unlawful terms, or by any threats or inſinuations that his buſineſs ſhould otherwiſe meet the ſmalleſt impediment or obſtruction from us; and that no compulſion or violence was with my knowledge ever made uſe of or intended, to induce him to give any preſents.

If the nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggutſeet had ever complained of themſelves, and could prove that I had by force or threats extorted, or by unfair means obtained preſents from them; or if it could be ſhewn wherein I neglected or ſacrificed the company's intereſt, and the buſineſs I was intruſted with on this occaſion, with a view to ſuch conſideration; or that I did not ſupport it to the utmoſt of my power, or had done or promiſed any diſhonourable ſervice; I ſhould then have thought it incumbent on me, and readily would have put myſelf on my defence and juſtified my conduct agreeably to the laws of my country, and the conſtitution of the company. But when I ſee the honour and credit of the council trampled upon, inſomuch that not one man belonging to the country government of diſtinction, ſince the committee were formed, and dared to receive or pay viſits from or to the members of the council, from a notion that has been propagated that they have now no authority, and are made dependants on the committee; when the ſelect committee uſurp authority they have no right to; where I ſee force and violence take the place of law and liberty; where military guards and impriſonment appear, and to overawe and extort evidence; I muſt beg leave to decline for the preſent to plead my cauſe before a tribunal and judges whoſe laws and rights we know not the bounds of, and whoſe powers the preſident has declared is what their own will ſhall think fit to aſſign, or in words to the ſame purport.

It ſeems the aim of the committee to render the proceedings of the late preſident and council if poſſible obnoxious, inſtead of ſtriving to promote the cordiality ſo much to be wiſhed. To what cauſes muſt we attribute this temper of the committee; one would almoſt think they were piqued to find the intereſt of the company ſo well ſecured before their arrival; only they muſt know that their coming at all was doubtful, and the gentlemen who had felt the defects of the former treaty, were full as well qualified to remedy them in the new one, and have no doubt their maſters will approve their ſervices. I had heard that the governor has expreſſed much

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Chagrin that the affair of his Jaghire has been ſettled according to his agreement with the company without his interpoſition, though a better opportunity could not have occurred to get it done. Mr. Spencer, than whoſe merit none ſtands in a fairer light with the company was, if I may ſo call him, the darling of that party which in England oppoſed Lord Clive and the gentlemen of the committee; any attack of him or his meaſures is an attack upon the party who eſpouſed him; and though I would not aſſert that any ſuch ſentiments influence any member of the board, yet I cannot help being ſurpriſed at the uncommon neglect and diſregard ſhewn to Mr. Spencer by Lord Clive, though he joined with the board in thanks to Mr. Spencer for the zeal he had ſhewn for the company's welfare. I cannot help in this place noticing the late treatment of Nundcomar; the board, before the change in our adminiſtration, had ſuch ſtrong reaſon to ſuſpect Nundcomar of ill deſigns againſt our government, and ill adviſing the nabob, that it was thought of the utmoſt importance to have ſo dangerous a perſon immediately removed from him; he was accordingly ſent down and confined in Calcutta, and witneſſes were ſummoned from Patna and other places to ſupport that charge; notwithſtanding this reſolution of the board, he was immediately allowed acceſs to the nabob on his arrival at Calcutta, without any reaſons being aſſigned to the board for a conduct ſo directly oppoſite to their ſentiments, and I think they ſhould be ſtrong ones to juſtify ſo extraordinary a deviation. The witneſſes too have been returned without any trial or examination that we yet know of; and now again I find it has been deemed expedient to forbid Nundcomar acceſs to the nabob. Theſe inconſiſtencies I ſhall wiſh to ſee accounted for, more particularly as I think the ſentiments of a former adminiſtration on ſuch a ſubject merited more conſideration and reſpect; and I muſt further remark, that though the gentlemen of the committee, from their long abſence from India, could not poſſibly be at firſt proper judges of the company's affairs and intereſts; they have never on any occaſion conſulted with, or aſked the ſentiments of the board. With regard to preſents in general, we have the approved example of the preſident Lord Clive himſelf for our guide, who though this nabob's father's princely bounty on his coming to the government, had made his fortune eaſy, and the company's welfare his only motive for ſtaying in India, yet acknowledges his having made uſe of the influence of Jugguſſeet to apply for a Jagheer, which, though amounting to 30,000l. per annum, was not thought improper by him to accept of, even in the circumſtances of diſtreſs he then repreſents the old nabob to have been in, his life twice ſaved from his troops mutinying for their arrears, only by the awe of our arms, and large balances then due to the company, which were not at all paid till after the revolution 1769.

The committee have been at great pains to lay open to the public what ſums have been paid to the gentlemen of the deputation and council on this occaſion. We think it will appear ſtrange however, that what they have received alone ſhould be ſcrutinized into with ſuch fervent zeal, while the ſums that were beſtowed on others now and heretofore not alſo ſpecified; theſe by the ſame methods that the committee have proceeded may doubtleſs be obtained. The arreſting and confining under guards thoſe entruſted and employed on the occaſion; they appeal to the world if Ramchurn Roy, who his lordſhip certified ſerved him entirely to his ſatisfaction; if Coja Petruſe, Nubkeſſen Munſhy, Nundcomar, or any other of thoſe able conveyancers, were to be ſeized, and confined cloſe priſoners, and made to anſwer whether they willed or not on oath to every queſtion that a future committee or governor and council ſhould put to them, as to the ſums their maſters have received; or if the books of the nabob's treaſury, from the time that the Meer Jaffier got the government, down to this day, were to be referred to as proof, as they have been now by Mahomed Reza Cawn, whether thoſe gentlemen who have hitherto raiſed immenſe fortunes by the nabob's bounty and treaſure, would think themſelves well uſed by ſuch violence and force uſed on thoſe that were entruſted by them, or by a retroſpect and ſcrutiny into their proceedings, where no complaint has been offered by the people who were alone concerned to make it againſt them, or whether we ſhould have much cauſe to be aſhamed by ſuch a contraſt.

We ſhould be glad to know what gentlemen in the militaay or civil, from colonel Clive down to this day, that have had the opportunity, and have not received preſents while in their power, and no duty ſtood in oppoſition to it; we do not infer they were improperly biaſſed by it, or that there was any thing in the receiving of thoſe cuſtomary acknowledgments diſhonourable, the cuſtom of the country, and the example of men of the beſt characters ſanctify it; but I beg leave to compare in ſome reſpects our proceeding and that of ſome who now ſo rigorouſly, and with ſo much malevolence call our conduct in queſtion. At the ſame time the rupture with Serajah Dowla, and the ſetting up Meer Jaffeer Aly Kawn was meditating, I ſucceeded to Mr. Spencer in the ſtation of Perſian tranſlator for carrying on the correſpondence with the country government, under Lord Clive: Mr. Luſhington was appointed to aſſiſt under me; I continued in this office for ſome months, and wrote the very laſt letter that was ſent to Suraja Dowla, informing of our ſetting out to meet him.

During this period Mr. Scraſton returned from the city with the ſecret negociations concerted with Meer Jaffier Aly Kawn; it was thought to contain matters too delicate

for me to be entruſted with, but my aſſiſtant was called in, and he, with the reſt of the committee took their oaths of ſecrecy. I appeal to thoſe gentlemen if it was not then that the terms of the treaty with Meer Jaffier Aly Kawn was adjuſted, and that the ſums agreed for the ſecret committee, as well as for the other accounts, were ſettled before the army was ordered to move.

The day the troops embarked I was told by Colonel Clive to return and do my duty in the artillery; I did, and I believe was the only perſon that had acted under the colonel during that negociation that was afterwards omitted in the nabob's private bounty when the affair was crowned with ſucceſs. Mr. Seraſton, who ſupplanted me, from being not worth a ſhilling, got a fortune; Mr. Luſhington, my aſſiſtant, had 30,000 rupees, with numbers of others of the colonel's friends, who as well as himſelf became eaſy in their fortunes from the bounty of that very nabob, who it was reported could not find money in the treaſury, to pay the ſums publicly ſtipulated for the company, reſtitution, navy, and army, to be paid on his being put in poſſeſſion, but the half deferred to be paid within a term of three years, and by aſſignments at laſt on the revenues of the provinces. This affected the army and navy in the diſcount they were neceſſitated on this pretext to allow the company for advancing their ſhares in ready money; the reſtitution ſufferers loſt the intereſt and advantage they would have had of their money if then paid, beſides running the riſque of never receiving part of it at all; and the company depended on the ſucceſs of the war for three years to ſecure their balance.

After we had executed the ſervice we were ſent upon in behalf of the company, without any promiſe or proſpect of reward, while the nabob was under no incumbrances, was not behind in the Kiſtbundies for the army or reſtitution; Laaks lying in his treaſury in Calcutta; let the world judge whether we might receive preſents, or his lordſhip and friends ſums infinitely larger, eight years ago, and the Jagheer afterwards, with the greateſt propriety.

The gentlemen who made the treaty with Meer Coſſim, claim ſome merit in having then rejected his offer, which was not to have been diſcharged till the debts Jaffier Aly Kawn left ſtill owing to the company, and the arrears to the troops were paid, yet I never heard any of theſe gentlemen pretend they would not receive it afterwards, nor can ſome of them, I believe, ſay they did not.

I think then, I may apply the noble lord's own obſervation, that I believe it would have appeared abſurd, after ſo many years ſervices, after having riſqued my life ſo often, and, let me add, after the reverſes I have lately experienced, had I refuſed this only honourable opportunity that ever was likely to offer of becoming independant, and to have truſted to the future kind offices of lord Clive.

At the ſame time the nabob conferred theſe favours on us, there was a demand on him for the money of the Jagheer, which the nabob had received ſince the company ſtopped the payment of it to Lord Clive. In regard to this, ſome obſervations have occurred to me, which I have not yet heard ſolved. The copies of the Dewannee Sunnud of the nabob Meer Mahomed Seadue Kawn, which was given to the deputies from the ſecretary's office, takes notice, that, in conſequence of the nabob Jaffier Aly Kawn having ſigned on the Furd Sual, the Furd Huckekeet and Mutchulca had alſo been ſigned to. Now theſe five papers are all connected and annexed to one another, the Sunnud, Decannie Zaemmien, Furd Sual, Furd Huckeciſt, and Mutchulca. The Furd Sual repreſents, that Sabut Jung, Colonel Clive, having been honoured with the rank of 6,000 and 5,000 horſe, and having now a formidable force ready for the king's ſervice, the expence of which he could not defray for want of a Jagheer, hopes the nabob's pleaſure may be ſignified, whether on condition of giving a Mutchulca for procuring the King's Sunnud, and adjuſting the doul or terms until theſe ſhould arrive, he ſhould receive the ſum of 222,958. 10, the rents of that Jagheer of the Nazim.

The Mutchulca of the Vacqueal of Sabut Jung expreſſes fully the terms on which this aſſignment on the Athars of Calcutta, &c. was, as it is, to be received as a Wudah referring to the rents of the Jagheer of the Nazim, and as an Elmaum referring to the Calſo Lands, on condition of anſwering for all that ſhould be collected therefrom, unleſs he obtained the King's Sunneed, and delivered it into the Dervannee Duftore, within ſix months, and adjuſted the Doul of the Jagheer. Now, though there appears a tranſlation of the nabob's Purwannah to the preſident and council, for paying the rents of the Jagheer to Lord Clive, 1758, yet I cannot ſay that I have any where met with the tranſlates of any of the above papers except the Sunneed Dewannee, though they ſeem of a nature to ſet his lordſhip's claim to that Jagheer in a very different light to what it muſt have appeared when the Mutchulca or obligation and Furd Sual were not conſidered, and when the King's Sunneed and Dual, or terms of the Jagheer, are therein expreſſed as being abſolutely requiſite to be procured to make it valid, and which I never have yet heard were obtained.

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Though I had the ſatisfaction to find my conduct in the truſts committed to my charge approved of, in repeated letters from the board here, and my ſervices recommended home in terms very favourable to our honourable maſters, who have likewiſe expreſſed their pleaſure for my attention to their intereſts, yet, from every circumſtance and proceeding, there ſeems a predetermination in the committee to injure my character and ruin my fortune, I cannot, conſidering the rank of credit I have hitherto ſupported as a member of the council, reſolve to ſubmit to further indignities, or to act in a ſtation now become of ſo little conſequence in the eyes and opinion of every body. The committee, inſtead of aiming to extenuate the ſuppoſed offence, that is done in courts of juſtice where the greateſt criminals are arraigned, have evidently ſtrove to aggravate every circumſtance that they would endeavour to charge upon me, even in regard to the bills, which I aſſerted, and do maintain, were ordered to be given back to Mahomed Reza Cawn, after we had ſigned the covenants unconditionally, though, had we choſe, we might have received their amounts long before. The obvious queſtion was never put to Mootyram, whether he had ever informed me, that Mahomed Reza Cawn had refuſed to receive them? and whether, on the contrary, he had not informed me repeatedly that they were given back?

The very night before Mootyram's arreſt, and his being confined, he brought me a meſſage from Mahomed Reza Cawn, deſiring I would lend him 50,000 rupees to pay in on account his Dacca rents for Lord Clive's Jagheer money, and the anſwer I returned was, Why did he not uſe the money of the bills that were given back? Though the examination of thoſe they would make witneſſes was in a language in which none of the gentlemen of the committee are at all perfect, and that it muſt have been of the greateſt conſequence to be certain that all the queſtions and anſwers were ſtrictly and fully tendered, and that whatever was offered or ſaid by the priſoners, in the terror and confuſion they were in, ſhould be taken down in their own words, eſpecially as expreſſions in this language ſo often admit of interpretations that may be rendered for or againſt; yet Mootiram and Buſſuntroy, were confronted with Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggutſeet were firſt called upon to compoſe their narrative. I muſt obſerve too with how little candour the ſelect committee have related their proceedings. In that of the the 7th they mention, that Buſſuntroy was ordered to be ſeized and brought before them; and in their proceedings of the 8th, in regard to Mootyram, who was expected to be ſo principal an evidence, they ſay he is only ordered to be ſent for; no notice is taken that he had been ſeized the day before by a ſerjeant party of ſeapoys, and was kept priſoner, with three centries over him, without liberty of ſeeing any but his menial ſervants, as if they purpoſely evaded the avowal of ſuch unwarrantable acts. He ſtill continues to this day in the ſame cloſe confinement, as alſo Buſſontroy, under military guards; and under theſe circumſtances, Lord Clive propoſed in council he might be called and examined, as if ſuch treatment was not ſufficient to deter any black man from retracting, however much inclined, whatever he might have ſaid before, falſe or contradictory, where he could not but expect that retracting would draw on him ſtill more diſgrace and unhappy conſequences. The ſufferings of Mootyram point out too plainly what others have to expect from ſuch arbitrary power, and ſeem well calculated to excite every accuſation that can poſſibly be ſcraped together from ſuch ſelfiſh diſappointed men, againſt the gentlemen who have had the adminiſtration, and managed the affairs of the company with ſo much credit and ſucceſs.

I cannot avoid taking notice of another inſtance, to ſhew how much it has been the aim of the preſident to render me cheap and of no conſequence in the eyes of the very country people. When I preſided as chief, even the intereſt of the company required that reſpect ſhould be kept up. The board having long ſince eſtabliſhed a chief and council for the management of collections, and conducting the buſineſs of the Burdwan diſtrict, and all orders have hitherto been iſſued to them from the public department, and all accounts, ſtatements, remittances, &c. made by them to the board, and never any orders have been, ſince the eſtabliſhment of the chief and council, ſent from the preſident or the board to the Rajah, but whatever concerned the buſineſs has been conſtantly addreſſed from the board to them only. This branch of the company's buſineſs, which has little connection with the buſineſs of the committe as inveſtments at the ſubordinates, or the lands of Calcutta, Chittagong, or Midnapote, they have taken under their juriſdiction, and without once deigning to make the leaſt enquiry of me in any one point, though here preſent, or even conſulting the board, or examining a paper or public account. A letter is wrote from the preſident to the Rajah, demanding 7,90,000, as the balance due from him, requiring it to be paid in ſeven days, otherwiſe ſhould ſtand to the conſequences, for he would hear no excuſe. The balance, according to a ſtatement which I gave Mr Sumner, to the end of march laſt, ſuppoſing the revenue 1763 to be ſtated at 34 laaks, to which the Rajah never agreed, and this year at 32 laaks, it appears, that, from the beginning of our poſſeſſions to the end of March there is due only about 3 laaks in the receipts of ſo large a ſum as 142,85,284 rupees. The accounts of the ſeveral years will ſhew clear enough under whoſe management the buſineſs has been beſt kept up, and moſt rents collected. The

Rajah

Rajah has not the power remaining with him of recovering the balances due from the farmers, but through the gentlemen ſuperintending the collections, and I believe the balances outſtanding may amount to 14 or 16 laaks, the caſh account will ſhew the receipts and diſburſements of whatever money has been collected. Notwithſtanding theſe circumſtances, and that the Rajah receives at the rate of about 22,000 rupee, per month from the caſh, he has not ſent the balance due out of his own private allowance, but repreſented theſe circumſtances. My Lord Clive, without conſulting the board, or ſaying a word to the chief, ordered him down at the very time he ought have been there preſent to make Punia, which is not made yet. By the ſame rule, he may extend his authority, and ſend for every Zemindar at Midnapore or Chittagong, and to all that are the company's debtors at every ſubordinate factory. Since the Rajah arrived in Calcutta, which is about fifteen days, he has not even dared to viſit me, apprehending that guards might be put upon him, after the example of Mootiram. With what credit could I now pretend to return to that factory again, where I muſt be conſidered of ſo little conſequence, that even thoſe placed under me dare not come near me for fear of his Lordſhip's diſpleaſure.

I obſerve, Mahomed Reza Cawn hasthought proper to include Mr. Cartier amongſt thoſe he has named partaking in the preſents from the nabob. It is true, I did mention to Mahomed Reza Cawn my wiſhes that the nabob might ſhew the marks of his favour to Mr. Cartier, a gentleman every way ſo worthy of it, and meriting ſo well of his family; but this, in juſtice to that gentleman, I muſt declare, was without his knowlege. Mahomed Reza Cawn ſaid he would take ſome opportunity of hinting it to the nabob, but he never informed me what he had done in the affair.

I ſhall at all times be ready to give every ſatisfaction, in every part of my tranſactions, whether pecuniary or otherwiſe, to every candid enquirer, as, it is well known, I have done on former occaſions. But as, from the tenor of the proceedings of the ſelect committee, I cannot but conſider them as my avowed enemies, I am reſolved no longer to continue in the ſervice, while they have the head, and uſurp the whole power into their own hands, and do accordingly now reſign the company's employ, expreſſing my warmeſt wiſhes for the conſtant ſucceſs of the affairs, and with moſt grateful thanks for their favour, during the fifteen years I have devoted myſelf to their ſervice, not doubting that I ſhall be able to ſatisfy them and the unprejudiced, as to the propriety and rectitude of my actions, and of my ſteady and inviolate regard for their intereſt on every occaſion.

John Johnſtone.

17th June, 1765.

This minute having been peruſed, the members of the committee deſire the board will meet to-morrow, that Mooteram may be examined in council on the evidences he gave before them.

Ordered,

That the ſecretary do acquaint Mr. Johnſtone, that he is permitted ro reſign the ſervice.

Fort William, the 18th June, 1765.

At a Conſultation: PRESENT,

The Right Honourable Robert, Lord Clive, Preſident,
William Brightwell Sumner, Charles Stafford Playdel,
Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, Ralph Leyceſter,
John Burdett, George Gray, Eſquires.

The board being met agreeable to the deſire of the ſelect committee, then minuted, that Mootyram might be examined in their preſence, on the evidence he gave to the committee, touching the pecuniary diſtributions lately made at the city, he was accordingly called before them, and his examination taken through the interpreter in the different courts, who was particularly ſworn on this occaſion, as was Mootyram alſo again.

On reading to him ſeparately the ſeveral parts of his evidence to the committee, he literally confirmed the whole of it, except in the following particulars.

To the firſt queſtion, What did you ſay to Mahomed Reza Cawn, about ſtopping the buſineſs of the Seets, unleſs they complied with the demand? he anſwered to the ſame purport as to the committee, but made uſe only of the term Cootch Boolega Ny, for what is rendered by the committee meeting with no protection or countenance; whereupon the committee obſerved, that he indifferently and repeatedly made uſe of both the expreſſions Cootch Sycur riga Ny, and Boolega Ny.

In his anſwer to the ſubſequent queſtion, he now differed, ſaying, that Juggutſeet made no offer of rings or jewels, but told them only, that as far as twenty or five and twenty thouſand rupees he would comply; that Illmiael Aly Cawn then ſaid, that would not do; and Juggutſeet replied, that he would then ſpeak to Mahomed Reza Cawn himſelf; and that when he went to him, he propoſed the ſum of 50,000 rupees.

To the queſtion, Was it of your own accord, or was you ordered to tell Mahomed Reza Cawn, that if Seets complied with the demand, their buſineſs ſhould be protected, otherwiſe it would have no countenance or encouragement? he confirmed his anſwer to the committee, uſing only the ſame expreſſion already remarked.

The examination having been concluded.

Mr. Leyceſter deſired the following queſtion might be put to Mootyram:

If when Mr. Johnſton related to him the reaſons why he thought the Seets might make preſents, whether he ordered him to mention them to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and to deſire Mahomed Reza Cawn would urge them to the Seets? which being put to him accordingly, he replied, That Mr. Johnſton did tell him to expreſs himſelf to Mahomed Reza Cawn in the ſame terms which Mr. Johnſton did to him.

Mr. Leyceſter, in addition to the ſeveral minutes already entered in vindication of his conduct, on the ſubject of this inquiry, and agreeably to the intimation in the cloſe of the laſt, deſired further to take the following oath, which was accordingly adminiſtered to him by the preſident; viz.

I ſwear that I am totally ignorant of the meſſages ſaid to be delivered by Mootyram to the Seets. So help me God.

(Signed)

Ralph Leyceſter.
Clive, Wm. B. Sumner,
H. Verelſt, Francis Sykes,
Ralph Leyceſter, J. Burdett,
George Gray.

No. 86.

To the Honourable Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. THE accompanying proceedings of the ſelect committee will explain our motives for purchaſing the Admiral Stephens to convey to your hands theſe diſpatches which, we hope, will be deemed of ſufficient importance to merit any extraordinary expence thereby incurred; an expence which, we flatter ourſelves, will be fully defrayed by the valuable cargo ſhe carries home at this early ſeaſon.

2. By the general letter of this date you will be informed by the preſident and council of every material concern that has been tranſacted before the board. At the ſame time, we beg leave to refer to the letters diſpatched by the Vanſittart and Bute, whereof duplicates are now incloſed; for a detail of the military operations, political occurrences, and eſpecially the very important tranſactions previous to our arrival, and ſubſequent to the death of Meer Jaffeer; an event that furniſhed the moſt glorious opportunity of eſtabliſhing your influence and power, on ſo ſolid a baſis as muſt ſoon have rendered the Engliſh Eaſt India company the moſt potent commercial body that ever flouriſhed at any period of time.

3. It is from a due ſenſe of the regard we owe and profeſs to your intereſt, and to our own honour, that we think it indiſpenſably neceſſary to lay open to your view a ſeries of tranſactions too notoriouſly known to be ſuppreſſed, and too affecting to your intereſt, to the national character, and to the exiſtence of the company in Bengal, to eſcape unnoticed and unceanſured; tranſactions which ſeem to demonſtrate that every ſpring of this government was ſmeared with corruption, that principles of rapacity and oppreſſion, univerſally prevailed, and that every ſpark of ſentiment and public ſpirit was loſt and extinguiſhed in the unbounded luſt of unmerited wealth.

4. To illuſtrate theſe poſitions, we muſt exhibit to your view a moſt unpleaſing variety of complaints, inquiries, evidences, accuſations, and vindications, the particulars of which are entered in our proceedings and the appendix, aſſuring you that we undertake this taſk with peculiar reluctance from the perſonal regard we entertain for ſome of the gentlemen whoſe characters will appear to be deeply affected.

5. At Fort St. George, we received the firſt advices of the demiſe of Meer Jaffier, and of Shujah Dowla's defeat. It was there firmly imagined that no definitive meaſures would be taken, either in reſpect to a peace, or filling the vacancy in the Nizamut, before our arrival, as the Lapwing arrived in the month of January with our general letter, and the appointment of a committee, with expreſs powers to that purpoſe, for the ſucceſsful exertion of which the happieſt occaſion now offered. However, a contrary reſolution prevailed in the council. The opportunity of acquiring immenſe fortunes, was too inviting to be neglected, and the temptation too powerful to be reſiſted. A treaty was haſtily drawn up by the board, or rather tranſcribed, with few unimportant additions, from that concluded with Meer Jaffier, and a deputation, conſiſting of Meſſrs. Johnſton, Senior, Middleton, and Leyceſter, appointed to raiſe the natural ſon of the deceaſed nabob to the Subahdarry, in prejudice of the claim of the grandſon; and for this meaſure ſuch reaſons are aſſigned as ought to have dictated a diametrically oppoſite reſolution. Miran's ſon was a minor, which circumſtance alone would have naturally brought the whole adminiſtration into our hands, at a juncture when it became indiſpenſably neceſ-

ſary we ſhould reallize that ſhadow of power and influence, which, having no ſolid foundation, was expoſed to the danger of being annihilated by the firſt ſtroke of adverſe fortune; but this inconſiſtence was not regarded; nor was it material to the views for precipitating the treaty, which was preſſed on the young nabob, at the firſt interview, in ſo earneſt and indelicate a manner as highly diſguſted him, and chagrined his miniſters; while not a ſingle rupee was ſtipulated for the company, whoſe intereſts were ſacrificed that their ſervants might revel in the ſpoils of a treaſury, before impoveriſhed, but now totally exhauſted.

6. This ſcene of corruption was firſt diſcloſed at a viſit the nabob paid to Lord Clive and the gentlemen of the committee, a few days after our arrival. He then delivered to his lordſhip a letter filled with bitter complaints of the inſults and indignities he had been expoſed to, and the embezzlement of near 20 lacks of rupees iſſued from his treaſury, for purpoſes unknown, during the late negociations. So public a complaint could not be diſregarded, and it ſoon produced an enquiry. We refered the letter to the board, in expectation of obtaining a ſatisfactory account of the application of this money, and were anſwered only by a warm remonſtrance entered by Mr. Leyceſter againſt that very nabob, in whoſe elevation he boaſts of having been a principal agent.

7. Mahomed Reza Cawn, the Naib Subah, was then called upon to account for this large diſburſement from the treaſury; and he ſoon delivered to the committee the very extraordinary narrative entered in our proceedings the 6th of June, wherein he ſpecifies the ſeveral names, the ſums, by whom paid, and to whom, whether in bills, caſh, or obligations. So preciſe, ſo accurate an account as this of money iſſued for ſecret and venal ſervices, was never, we believe, before this period exhibited to the honourable court of directors; at leaſt never vouched by ſuch undeniable teſtimony and authentic documents; by Juggut Seet, who himſelf was obliged to contribute largely to the ſums demanded; by Mooteram, who was employed by Mr. Johnſtone in all thoſe pecuniary tranſactions; by the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn, who were the heavieſt ſufferers; and laſtly, by the confeſſion of the gentlemen themſelves, whoſe names are ſpecified in the diſtribution liſt.

8. Juggut Seet expreſly declares in his narrative, that the ſum which he agreed to pay the deputation, amounting to 125,000 rupees, was extorted by menaces; and ſince the cloſe of our enquiry, and the opinions we delivered in the proceedings of the 21ſt of June, it fully appears that the preſents from the nabob and Mahomed Reza Cawn, exceeding the immenſe ſum of 17 lacks, were not the voluntary offerings of gratitude, but contributions levied in the weakneſs of the government, and violently exacted from the dependant ſtate and timid diſpoſition of the miniſter. The charge is indeed denied on the one hand, as well as affirmed on the other; your honourable board muſt therefore determine how far the circumſtance of extortion may aggravate the crime of diſobedience to your poſitive orders; the expoſing the government in a manner to ſale, and receiving the infamous wages of corruption from oppoſite parties and contending intereſts. We ſpeak with boldneſs, becauſe we ſpeak from conviction founded upon indubitable facts, that beſides the above ſums ſpecified in the diſtribution account, to the amount of 228,125 pounds ſterling, there was likewiſe to the value of ſeveral lacks of rupees procured from Nundcomar and Roydullub, each of whom aſpired at and obtained a promiſe of that very employment it was predetermined to beſtow on Mahomed Reza Cawn. The particulars of this extraordinary bargain came too late to our hands to be inſerted in the proceedings; nor do we think it material, ſince to inſiſt on farther proofs than are already fully and clearly exhibited, in order to convince you that our enquiry was neceſſary, and our deciſion moderate, would, we apprehend, ſerve rather to exhauſt your patience, than confirm your belief.

9. Theſe particulars being ſubmitted to your conſideration, it may be neceſſary to offer a few remarks on thoſe arguments urged by the gentlemen in their ſeveral minutes, either in their own juſtification, or with a view that our proceedings ſhould appear arbitrary and oppreſſive. Meſſrs. Johnſtone, Senior, Lyceſter, Burdett, and Gray, vindicate the receiving preſents by argumenrs which in our opinion renders their conduct ſtill more culpable. They urge, that as the covenants were not then executed they could not be obligatory. In anſwer, we will beg leave to aſk thoſe gentlemen, whether the company's orders were not then received? Whether the intention and ſpirit of thoſe orders were not clearly and perfectly underſtood? Whether the covenants themſelves were not tranſmitted from England ready to be filled up and executed? Whether a ſingle motion for fulfilling the company's inſtructions appears on the face of the conſultations? Whether it was not incumbent on them as the ſuperior power, to ſet this example of reſpect and deference to the orders of their conſtituents? And whether they conceive the company would have ſuſtained any detriment by this act of their obedience? How then came the orders to be totally neglected, at a juncture, eſpecially, when the letter and ſpirit of thoſe obligations clearly manifeſted that particular regard ſhould be had to their execution?

10. The ſame gentlemen arraign the conduct, and even deny the powers, of the ſelect committee. Mr. Leyceſter in particular affirms, that candor and decency required the truth of a charge brought againſt any of the members of the board ſhould be determined by the board. You, gentlemen, will be able to judge of the force of this argumant, and of the propriety of the meaſure

meaſure propoſed, when we acquaint you, that of a board then ſitting at the preſidency, conſiſting of the preſident and eight members, five of thoſe members were themſelves accuſed, who, by having a majority of voices, would of conſequence become the judges of their own conduct. We will not enter into a diſcuſſion of the preciſe powers intruſted to the committee; but we may venture to affirm, that unleſs the ſpirit of their inſtructions be executed to the correction of abuſes, the detection of corruption, and the puniſhment of diſobedience, the ends propoſed, of "reſtoring peace and tranquility," will be fruſtrated, and their appointment rendered ridiculous and abſurd.

11. Mr. Johnſtone is pleaſed to aſſert that no proofs can be produced of menaces being uſed to obtain a ſum of money from Juggutt Seet. To this we reply by a reference to the evidence of his own agent Mooteram, where it is declared upon oath that he delivered by Mr. Johnſtone's expreſs orders the very meſſages recited in his examination, meſſuages of ſuch tendency as certainly would bear hard on Mr. Johnſtone's character. As to what he further adds of our obtaing this evidence by military force and terrors, we are ſorry to ſee a gentleman reduced to the neceſſity of reſting his defence on the ſubterfuge of ſo pitiful an evaſion. Mr. Johnſtone certainly knows, at leaſt he ought to know, as the proceedings were immediately ſent to him, that Mootyram was ſeized in the commiſſion of a clandeſtine illegal act, of intereſting conſequence to the public in general, and to Mr. Johnſtone and the gentlemen of the deputation in particular; Mootyram was actually detected in an attempt to ſuppreſs bills to the amount of 175,000 rupees, which had been wrongfully obtained from Mahomed Reza Cawn; and to ſkreen from diſcovery a circumſtance which it highly imported the committee to know, and which Mr. Johnſtone ſhould have made known were he ſolicitous to exculpate himſelf from a charge that deeply affected his reputation, and of ſuch irreproachable conduct as he would endeavour to perſuade the world. But that not the leaſt ſhadow of a doubt might remain of the candour and equity of the meaſures we purſued, we readily conſented that the ſame Mootyram might be re-examined in the preſence of the council, where he confirmed without contradiction or evaſion every material circumſtance ſet forth in his firſt evidence. The remainder of Mr. Johnſone's minute you will perceive doth not affect the committee as a body; it conſiſts intirely of perſonal invective, looſe and virulent declamation, the genuine effect of enraged diſappointment and detection; yet ſhould any thing further be required in anſwer, we beg leave to refer you to the replies made by lord Clive and the membors of the committee, which we flatter ourſelves will appear full and explicit.

12. One circumſtance more occurs in the courſe of thoſe gentlemen's minutes that merits our obſervation: It is declared by Mr. Leyceſter upon oath that he did not receive the preſent intended him by Mahomed Reza Cawn, and that his letters will demouſtrate his intention was to have refuſed it. This is a fact, of the truth of which we entertain not the leaſt doubt; but it proves nothing more than Mr. Leyceſter would not receive a ſum of money after the covenants had been enforced by the committee, and an enquiry ſet on foot concerning the diſtribution of that very money, a part of which was now privately tendered back to Mahomed Reza Cawn. He will not deny that he knew of the intended preſent when he was at Coſſimbuzar; the letters of Meſſrs. Senior and Middleton prove that he did, He will not deny that bills to the amount of 50,000 rupees were made out in his name; their being now offered back to Mahomed Reza Cawn, and Mootyram's being detected in the fact, evince it. The whole therefore of this ſolemn aſſeveration amounts only to an evaſion in reſpect to time and circumſtances, which no way affect the nature of the act itſelf.

13. Having now explained the origin and progeſs of this diſagreeable enquiry, we beg leave to touch upon a few circumſtances in juſtification of the lenity of our opinions delivered, and reſolutions entered in the committee proceedings of the 21ſt of June. And here we muſt obſerve, that notwithſtanding we believed a reformation of abuſes to be actually our duty, yet we could not think the ſame duty neceſſarily extended to the puniſhment of trangreſſiont; we owed a regard to the perſons and characters of ſome of the gentlemen concerned, who muſt ſuffer extreemly by a diſpenſion or diſmiſſion; the great object of our wiſhes were, that your ſervice might in future be conducted with integrity, diligence, and oeconomy, without a retroſpect to the paſt, where it could be avoided. The ſubject indeed of the preſent enquiry was ſo recent, it was of ſo intereſting a nature to the public, and ſrecommended to us, or rather was forced upon us, with ſuch peculiar circumſtances, as rendered our proceeding to a ſcrutiny neceſſary to our own reputation; but the ſeverity of judgement, and a diciſion which would have left ſo great a void in your council, was not equally neceſſary either to your intereſt or to your honour. Such an event might have impreſſed the minds of the natives with ſtrange ideas of the fluctuating ſituation of our councils; and it would unavoidably have admitted a number of your junior ſervants to the ſupreme direction of this vaſt machine of government, at an age little exceeding that period fixed by the laws of their country for entruſting them with the management of their own private fortunes. We muſt further obſerve, that many of the moſt aggravating

circumſtances

circumſtances had not then reached our knowledge; at the ſame time we were under the neceſſity of coming to ſome determination; Shuja Dowlah impatiently expected lord Clive in camp to conclude the propoſed treaty, and the regulations of the government lately eſtabliſhed; and other matters then tranſacting, abſolutely required Mr. Syke's attendance at the Durbar; ſome of the extraordinary facts above related we obtained ſince their departure: and had they come ſooner, they would have ſerved only to perplex and embarraſs us the more. In a word, to obviate future evils, we conſidered as our immediate duty: The puniſhment of paſt miſconduct we choſe rather to refer to your honourable board, that malice itſelf ſhould have no foundation for aſſerting, that we had aſſumed and exerted a power not fully and expreſsly authorized by the court of directors. We think it neceſſary to declare, in juſtice to Mr. Cartier, whoſe character ſtands irreproachable in the liſt of your ſervants, that he never knew of or conſented to the receiving any the ſmalleſt preſent, either from the nabob or from Mahomed Reza Cawn.

14. Although we will not take upon us to declare, that we entirely approve of the covenants in the form in which they have been tranſmitted; yet we are perſuaded, from the inſtances juſt related, that ſome reſtraint is neceſſary, to prevent the abuſe of the cuſtomary indulgence to receive preſents. This indulgence has certainly been extended to the moſt ſhameful oppreſſion and flagrant corruption, and is otherwiſe attended with manifold inconveniences to the ſervice. We therefore determined immediately to enforce your inſtructions relative to thoſe obligations, and to bind down by laws all ſuch as are not to be checked by a ſenſe of honour and juſtice. You will accordingly obſerve, that carrying thoſe orders into ſtrict execution throughout every department, civil and military, was amongſt the earlieſt tranſactions of your ſelect committee.

15. We alſo took an early opportunity of conſidering the tendency of your repeated inſtructions for recalling free merchants, and other Europeans, who, without the leaſt claim to your protection from indentures, were nevertheleſs permitted to reſide up the country, and in all the different parts of the nabob's dominions. Sorry we are to obſerve, that this indulgence has frequently given birth to grievous acts of inſult and oppreſſion, at places remote from the preſidency and ſubordinate factories; and that carrying your orders into execution became daily more neceſſary. By this meaſure, however, the buſineſs of your ſervants will ſuffer conſiderably from their being now obliged to employ black Gomaſtahs on many affairs that demand the vigour and activity of Europeans. Hence likewiſe will many perſons of real merit be deprived the means of ſubſiſtence; yet, in conſideration that private intereſt muſt give way to public benefit, and that it is our duty to obey where your immediate intereſts do not abſolutely require a deviation from your orders, we determined to call all the Europeans reſiding up the country, under protection of the Engliſh name, by the 21ſt of October next, and have, for that purpoſe, circulated advertiſements and orders to the different ſubordinates.

16. Regulating the country government was the next object of our attention. We found the nabob highly diſſatisfied with the plenary powers veſted in Mahomed Reza Cawn; who, by virtue of the treaty, acted in quality of prime miniſter, and enjoyed uncontrouled authority. This unlimited ſway, lodged in the hands of a ſingle perſon, appeared dangerous to the preſent eſtabliſhment, which we thought it becoming the company's honour to maintain, as having been ſolemnly ratified by the governor and council. To amend the very obvious defects in the treaty, without overſetting the principles on which it was founded, was conſiſtent with equity, while it met with the nabob's own approbation; and the moſt effectual means of doing this ſeemed to us to conſiſt in an equal partition of miniſterial influence. As Mahomed's Reza Cawn's ſhort adminiſtration was irreproachable, we determined to continue him in a ſhare of the authority; at the ſame time that we aſſociated with him men of weight and character, ſo that each became a check on the conduct of the others. Accordingly we fixed on Juggut Seet and Roydullub, for the reaſons aſſigned in the proceedings; and we now have the pleaſure to acquaint you, that the buſineſs of the government goes on with unanimity, vigour, and diſpatch.

17. By the laſt diſpatches you were adviſed, that Shuja Dowlah was making freſh and formidable preparations to penetrate a ſecond time in the nabob's dominions. He had found means to engage Mulhah, a conſiderable Marattah chief, in his alliance; and if the judicious and vigorous meaſures purſued by general Carnac had not prevented a junction of the numerous forces deſtined for this invaſion, a ruinous war muſt have been ſupported through the courſe of another campaign. The enemy's ſituation rendered their deſign for ſome time uncertain, and obliged the general to great circumſpection in his movements, leſt he ſhould leave the frontiers expoſed. Having however, at length, received undoubted advice they had taken the Korah Road, he ſuſpected their intention was to fall upon Sir Robert Fletcher, who commanded a ſeperate corps in that diſtrict. Accordingly he made ſome forced marches

to

to effect a junction, which he happily accompliſhed, and the united army moved in purſuit of the enemy. On the 3d of May the general came up, attacked, and entirely defeated them; in conſequence of which Shuja Dowlah ſeperated from his allies, while the Marattahs retired with precipitation towards the Jumma. In fact, this blow appears to have been deciſive; for Shuja Dowlah never again attempted to join the Marattahs, who, obſerving the general dropt the purſuit in order to watch the vizier, made a ſecond effort to re-enter Korah, in which they were diſappointed. Perſuaded, that to ſtop the incurſions it would be neceſſary to drive them beyond the Jumma, the general croſſed the river the 22d, diſlodged them from their poſt on the oppoſite ſide, and obliged them to retire to the hills Here he quitted his purſuit, and returned to his ſtations at Jajeman, to receive Shuja Dowlah, who had intimated a deſire of ſubmitting to whatever condition we ſhould think fit to preſcribe. His letter to the general expreſſes his feelings; and the reception he met with in our camp was ſuch as policy dictated ſhould be given to a vanquiſhed enemy of Shuja Dowlah's rank and character.

18. A peace with the Vizier became the next immediate object of our deliberations; in adjuſting which, we endeavoured to extend our views beyond the preſent advantages that might poſſibly be obtained. We regarded Shujah Dowlah's perſonal character, and high reputation over the whole empire, the ſituation of his country which we had conquered, and the great riſque and expence of maintaining this conqueſt, if we cloſed with the plan adopted by the late governor and council of giving it up to Nudjuff Cawn, who had neither weight of reputation nor of force ſufficient to keep poſſeſſion, nor to form a ſecure barrier to the nabob's dominions. The words of our inſtructions to Lord Clive, when he left the preſidency to adjuſt the conditions of a peace, expreſs the ſentiments which we ſtill entertain on this ſubject: "Experience having ſhewn that an influence "maintained by force of arms is deſtructive of that commercial ſpirit which we ought "to promote, ruinous to the company and oppreſſive to the country; we earneſtly re-"commend to your Lordſhip, that you will exert your utmoſt endeavours to conciliate "the affections of the country powers, to remove any jealouſy they may entertain of "our unbounded ambition, and to convince them we aim not at conqueſt and dominion, "but ſecurity in carrying on a free trade equally beneficial to them and to us."

"With this view policy requires, that our demands be moderate and equitable, and "that we avoid every appearance of an inclination to enlarge our territorial poſſeſſions. "The ſacrifice of conqueſts which we muſt hold on a very precarious tenure, and at an "expence more than equivalent to their revenues, is of little conſequence to us; yet "will ſuch reſtitution impreſs them with a high opinion of our generoſity and juſtice."

"For theſe reaſons we think Shuja Dowlah ſhould be reinſtated in the full poſſeſſion "of all his dominions, with ſuch limitations only as he muſt ſee are evidently calcu-"lated for our mutual benefit. We would decline inſiſting upon any terms that muſt "prove irkſome to his high ſpirit, and imply a ſuſpicion of his ſincerity; retaining poſ-"ſeſſion of any of his ſtrong holds, may poſſibly be deemed a neceſſary pledge of his "fidelity: For our parts we would rather conſider it as the reſource of future con-"tention, and an unneceſſary burthen to the company, unleſs it be one day propoſed "to reſume the thoughts of extending their dominions: A meaſure very oppoſite to the "ſentiments in which we left the court of directors."

19. Agreeable to theſe inſtructions, his Lordſhip and General Carnac concluded a treaty of peace with Shuja Dowlah, that will, if any thing can, ſecure his friendſhip and fidelity, and render the public tranquility permanent. They found him averſe to to the eſtabliſhment of factories in his dominions, which he conſidered as laying the foundation of a future rupture, and the only thing that could poſſibly diſturb our army; he very juſtly obſerved that our encroachments in Bengal, the great abuſe of the company's ſervants, and extraordinary extenſion of the privileges originally granted to the Engliſh, had been productive of much confuſion and bloodſhed in Bengal, and he feared might produce ſimilar conſequences in his country. Accordingly Lord Clive and General Carnac judged it adviſeable to omit the word FACTORIES in the treaty; but without relinquiſhing the right, ſhould it be found expedient after mature deliberation to enforce it. To ſpeak our own ſentiments freely, we can foreſee no benefit that can ariſe to the company from maintaing ſettlements at ſo vaſt a diſtance from the preſidency, whatever advantages may ariſe to their ſervants. At leaſt the proſpect is ſo remote, while the expences are ſo certain, the risk ſo evident, and the diſputes it will occaſion ſo probable, that we are at preſent of opinion the factory lately eſtabliſhed at Benaras ought immediately to be withdrawn; we mean as ſoon as the agreement between the company and Bulwant Sing is expired. The limits of the nabob's dominions are ſufficient to anſwer all our purpoſes. Theſe we think ought to conſtitute the boundaries, not only of all your territorial poſſeſſions and influence in theſe parts, but of your commerce alſo, ſince by the graſping at more you endanger the ſafety of thoſe immenſe revenues, and that well-founded power, which you now enjoy, without the hope of obtaining an adequate advantage.

20. With reſpect to the articles of the treaty, you will obſerve that a ſufficient proviſion is ſecured for the ſupport of the King's honour and dignity, without danger of his becoming a future incumbrance; and that 26 lacks yearly are granted to him on the revenues of Bengal: a revenue far more conſiderable than he ever before enjoyed.—In gratitude for this inſtance of our attention to his intereſt, his Majeſty has been pleaſed to beſtow on the company the moſt important grants ever yet obtained by any European ſtate from the Mogul court. Beſides confirming to the company all their former poſſeſſions, and ſe-

curing to them the reverſion in perpetuity of Lord Clive's Jagheer, he has confered on them the Dewanny of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, and ratified in the ſtrongeſt terms the agreement we propoſed concluding with the nabob, if the King's conſent could be procured:—Subjects which it will be neceſſary to explain in a ſeparate paragraph:—Another article ſtipulates that Shuja Dowlah ſhall pay the company fifty lacks of rupees by way of indemnification for the charges incurred by the war. This indemnification we know is inadequate; but his circumſtances would not afford more without oppreſſing the country, and thereby laying the foundation of future contention and trouble, and accordingly you will perceive that no money is granted for any other conſideration whatever:——As to ſurrendering Coſſim Ally, Sombree, and the deſerters, compliance with ſuch a demand is now utterly out of his power. The former, we hear, has ſought ſhelter in the Rohillah country, and the latter reſides under the protection of the Jauts, ſkreened both from Shuja Dowlah and from us; ſo that making this an eſſential preliminary would be highly unreaſonable and abſurd. However, it is ſtipulated that they never meet with encouragement or aſſiſtance from Shuja Dowlah, or be ever again admitted into his country. Upon the whole we have paid ſuch regard to Shuja Dowlah's character and intereſt, and to what juſtice as well as policy requires, without any the ſmalleſt ſacrifice of your honour or intereſt, that we entertain the moſt flattering hope, this treaty of peace will be laſting, and our frontiers on that quarter perfectly ſecure againſt future invaſions.

21. The time now approaches when we may be able to determine with ſome degree of certainty, whether our remaining as merchants ſubjected to the juriſdiction, encroachments, and inſults of the country government, or the ſupporting your privileges and poſſeſſions by the ſword, are likely to prove moſt beneficial to the company. Whatever may be the conſequence, certain it is, that after having once begun and proceeded to ſuch lengths, we have been forced to go on from ſtep to ſtep, until your whole poſſeſſions were put to the riſk by every revolution affected, and every battle fought. To apply a remedy to theſe evils by giving ſtability and permanency to your government, is now and has been, the conſtant object of the ſerious attention of your ſelect committee.

22. The perpetual ſtruggles for ſuperiority between the nabobs and your agents, together with the recent proofs before us of notorious and avowed corruption, have rendered us unanimouſly of opinion, after the moſt mature deliberation, that no other method could be ſuggeſted of laying the axe to the root of all theſe evils, than that of obtaining the dewanny of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, for the company: By eſtabliſhing the power of the great Mogul, we have likewiſe eſtabliſhing his rights, and his Majeſty from principles of gratitude equity, and policy, has thought proper to beſtow this important employment on the company, the nature of which is, the collecting all the revenues, and after defraying the expences of the army, and allowing a ſufficient fund for the ſupport of the Nizamut, to remit the remainder to Delhi, or wherever the king ſhall reſide or direct. But as the king has been graciouſly pleaſed to beſtow on the company for ever ſuch ſurplus as ſhall ariſe from the revenues, upon certain ſtipulations and agreements expreſſed in the Sunnud, we have ſettled with the nabob, with his own free will and conſent, that the ſum of 53 lacks ſhall be annually paid to him for the ſupport of his dignity and contingent expences, excluſive of the charge of maintaining an army which is to be defrayed out of the revenues ceded to the company by this royal grant of the Dewanny. And indeed the nabob has abundant reaſon to be well ſatisfied with the conditions of his agreement, whereby a fund is ſecured to him without trouble or danger, adequate to all the purpoſes of ſuch grandeur and happineſs, as a man of his ſentiments has any conception of enjoying:—More would ſerve only to diſturb his quiet, endanger his government, and ſap the foundation of that ſolid ſtructure of power and wealth, which at length has happily reared and compleated by the company after a vaſt expence of blood and treaſure.

23. By this acquiſition of the Dewanny, your poſſeſſions and influence are rendered permanent and ſecure, ſince no future nabob will either have power or riches ſufficient to attempt your overthrow, by means either of force or corruption. All revolutions muſt henceforward be at an end, as there will be no fund for ſecret ſervices, for donations or for reſtitutions. The nabob cannot anſwer the expectations of the venal and mercenary, nor will the company comply with demands injurious to themſelves, out of their own revenues.---The experience of years has convinced us, that a diviſion of power is impoſſible without generating diſcontent, and hazarding the whole.—All muſt belong either to the company or to the nabob, and we leave you to judge which alternative is the moſt deſirable, and the moſt expedient in the preſent circumſtances of affairs. As to ourſelves we know of no ſyſtem we could adopt, that could leſs affect the nabob's dignity, and at the ſame time ſecure the company againſt the fatal effects of future revolutions, than this of the Dewanny. The power is now lodged where it can only be lodged with ſafety to us; ſo that we may pronounce with ſome degree of confidence, that the worſt that will happen in future to the company, will proceed from temporary ravages only; which can never become ſo general as to prevent your revenues from yielding a ſufficient fund to defray your civil and military charges, and furniſh your inveſtments.

24. But to ſecure thoſe valuable poſſeſſions, a conſtant regard muſt be paid to your military eſtabliſhments. By the regimental returns which we incloſe in the packet, and which are very exact, you will ſee, at one view, the deplorable condition of our infantry; to compleat which, agreeable to your directions, and to the propoſals made by lord Clive, not leſs than nine hundred men will ſuffice. We therefore moſt earneſtly requeſt that you will, next year, ſend out twelve or fourteen hundred men for this eſtabliſhment, giving ſuch peremptory orders as muſt be obeyed, that none of this number be detained, upon any conſideration, upon the coaſt of Coromandel,

romandel. Our numbers once compleated, we ſhall require, for the ſecurity of your immenſe poſſeſſions in this country not more than ſix hundred recruits to be ſent out annually, in the following manner, viz. five hundred infantry, ſixty artillery, twenty cavalry, and twenty ſerjeants for the ſeapoys. To this number muſt be added, thirty volunteers and officers; and it would be of the utmoſt benefit to our plan, that you ſend out, every year, ſix or ſeven gentlemen from the academy at Woolwich for artillery officers; this being a ſervice that ſuffers extremely, for want of perſons properly inſtructed to conduct it; ſince no officer, who knows the benefit of the infantry ſervice here, will chuſe to quit it for any advantage the artillery will afford.

25. Already we feel the good effects of regimenting your troops; diſcipline, ſubordination, œconomy, begin to take place. Had General Carnac's merit been much greater, if poſſible, than it is, he could not effect this of himſelf, unaſſiſted as he was by field officers, and thwarted, as he always has been, by the late governors and councils. We have already iſſued our orders for ſtriking off half the double Batta, and ſhall, in a very few days, put your forces entirely upon a footing with the troops on the coaſt of Coromandel, which will be reducing your military expences as low as they can well bear, conſiſtently with your intereſt and the good of the ſervice.

26. Before we quit this ſubject, we muſt requeſt, in the ſtrongeſt manner, that you will ſupply us, for the firſt year, with 10,000 ſtands of ſmall arms, and afterwards with 4000 annually, which will in future anſwer all our demands, if proper care be taken in the purchaſe. Of late years, the bad quality of your ſmall arms, in general, has expoſed your poſſeſſions to the greateſt riſk and danger. The locks are ill finiſhed, and the metal ſo badly tempered as not to ſtand the heat of the ſun, in this climate. We are therefore perſuaded it would prove in the end, much to your advantage, if you purchaſed all the ſmall arms of the ſame perſons who furniſh the government, and pay at the rates of 27 inſtead of 18 ſhillings per firelock; ſince experience demonſtrates they will continue ſerviceable for double the time without being liable to the inconveniencies above repreſented. The iron-founder, whom you ſent out in the Kent, died on his paſſage to this place; but as the caſting of ſhot and ſhells in this country is an object of great importance, we ſtrongly recommend that you will ſupply the loſs as ſoon as poſſible, by ſending three or four perſons well verſed in that buſineſs, that our whole deſign may not be fruſtrated by ſuch an accident in future. It alſo merits your ſerious conſideration to provide, by every poſſible means, againſt the illicit importation of ſmall arms to your ſettlements in India, and particularly in Bengal. Of late years this has become a profitable branch of trade with the European captains, as well as that of furniſhing the natives with ammunition; and they elude the ſearches of your officers, by ſending round ſmall veſſels to meet them at ſea in certain latitudes, or to Teneriff and Saint Jago, or elſewhere, out of the reach of your enquiries. However, as their continuing ſuch practices any longer may prove fatal in their conſequences to all your poſſeſſions in this country, we earneſtly exhort, that you will immediately apply the moſt effectual remedy you can ſuggeſt, either by way of prevention, or by the vigorous and exemplary puniſhment of the offenders. At the ſame time you may depend we will take every ſtep in our power to detect the leaſt breach of your orders on this head, and obſtruct the ſale of all kinds of fire arms.

27. Having obſerved the reluctance that appeared in bidding for your farms, at the laſt ſale of your lands in the Burdwan province, the great annual deficiency in the collections, and the numberleſs complaints made of grievous exactions and oppreſſions, we determined, upon Mr. Johnſtone's reſigning your ſervice to appoint Mr. Verelſt, in quality of ſupervifor of thoſe revenues, in order to form the beſt judgment poſſible of the cauſe of this yearly deficiency of the real value of the lands, the beſt method of improving and letting them; and alſo to procure the neceſſary materials for a plan to conduct the collections, in future, in ſuch manner as ſhall appear moſt conducive to your intereſt and likely to promote the happineſs of the people. It is with pleaſure we acquaint you, that we have the greateſt reaſon to be ſatisfied with Mr. Verelſt's attention to the ſeveral objects recommended, and the diligence he has exerted during his ſhort reſidence in that country; of which you may form ſome judgment from his memorial to the committee, annexed to our proceedings of the 14th of September.

28. It was in conſequence of this memorial that we formed our reſolution of that date, to withdraw the factory, and alſo to recal the member of the board reſident at Midnapoor, the collections and buſineſs of which may as conveniently be tranſacted by a junior ſervant, at a much leſs expence. Many are the inconveniences, beſides the extraordinary charges incurred, that reſult from ſuch appointments, which we conſider as neceſſary only at thoſe ſubordinates where your principal inveſtments are made. We are convinced, by very late experience, that the moſt flagrant oppreſſions may be wantonly committed in thoſe employments, by members of the board, which would not be tolerated in junior ſervants, and that the dread and awe annexed to their ſtation, as councellors, has too frequently ſkreened them from complaints, which would be lodged, without fear or ſcruple, againſt inferior ſervants.

29 But there are other manifold inconveniencies, of ſtill more pernicious effect to the ſervice, that reſult from thoſe appointments: Hence it was found neceſſary to enlarge the council from twelve to ſixteen members, that there might be a ſufficient number to conduct the buſineſs of the preſidency, and alſo to manage your affairs at the out ſettlements, either in quality

of chiefs or refidents. What is the conſequence, but ſuch perpetual changes and revolutions at the board as render it impoſſible for any of the members to acquire a competent knowledge of your intereſts, and of the particular duty of their own ſtation. This increaſe in the number of the board is alſo productive of a further inconvenience, of the deepeſt concern to your intereſt, in the preſent ſituation of your affairs. To keep up to the letter of your inſtructions, we muſt fill the vacancies in council from the next in ſucceſſion, without regard to the qualifications they poſſeſs for the diſcharge of ſo important a truſt; and thus commit into the hands of raſh, inexperienced and ignorant young men, the conduct of a ſyſtem of government which demands the diſcretion, judgment, and ſteadineſs of more advanced years and longer ſervices. Circumſtances are now widely different from what they were a few years ſince, when you confined your whole attention to commerce, and were happy in being able to complete your inveſtments without inſult or exaction from the country government. You are now become the ſovereigns of a rich and potent kingdom; your ſucceſs is beheld with jealouſy by the other European nations who maintain ſettlements in India, and your intereſts are ſo extended, ſo complicated, and ſo connected with thoſe of the ſeveral ſurrounding powers, as to form a nice and difficult ſyſtem of politics.

30. Theſe weighty conſiderations determined us to avoid filling the vacancies lately occaſioned in council by the death of Mr. Billers, and reſignation of Meſſrs. Johnſtone and Burdet. We carefully examined your orders, reſpecting the appointment of a board. We compared the different paragraphs of your letter, the more clearly to aſcertain the ſpirit of your inſtructions; and are unanimous in our opinion your reaſons for encreaſing the number of the board were founded on a ſuppoſition that this meaſure would conduce to the benefit of the Company. Experience convinces us of the contrary; and we ſhall be wanting in duty to our conſtituents, if, from a ſervile regard to the letter, we neglected the evident ſenſe and meaning of your inſtructions by admitting to the government of your affairs, a number of perſons who have certainly no other claim to this diſtinction than that of ſtanding next in ſucceſſion. It is with the utmoſt regret we think it incumbent on us to declare that in the whole liſt of your junior merchants there are not more than three or four gentlemen whom we could poſſibly recommend to higher ſtations at preſent. In this number, juſtice requires we ſhould mention Mr. Campbell, ſecretary to this committee, whoſe abilities and indefatigable diligence, of which we had the moſt convincing proof in the courſe of our proceedings, entitle him to this inſtance of our regard, and to your particular notice; and, as the ſame qualifications will diſtinguiſh him in any ſtation of your ſervice, it is our joint requeſt that you will pleaſe to remove the reſtriction on his riſing, as a covenant ſervant, and ſuffer him to take rank according to the date of his appointment. At all times it has been found expedient to deviate occaſionally from this general rule of preferring ſeniority. It now becomes your indiſpenſible duty to admit no claim but that of merit, if you would preſerve the valuable poſſeſſions you enjoy, and realize the very near proſpect you have of eſtabliſhing your affairs on ſo firm and ſolid a baſis as nothing but miſconduct can overſet. So much reſts with the board, that in your judicious, impartial ſelection of the members, it depends, whether you hold a foot of land, and enjoy a privilege, in Bengal, or whether you continue in poſſeſſion of the moſt ample revenues, and extenſive influence ever eſtabliſhed by any European mercantile body. We therefore moſt earneſtly exhort you, that no conſideration of favour and prejudice be ſuffered to bias you in the important buſineſs of compoſing your council, and that no other diſtinction be admitted, except what is due to ability, to integrity and faithful eſſential ſervices. Were we to ſpeak our ſentiments further, we would confeſs it to be our firm opinion, founded on the experience now before us, that the buſineſs of this government can never ſo effectually be conducted, as by a ſelect, unanimous committee. By dividing the power into many hands, you weaken the authority, promote diſſention, and deprive your meaſures of that ſecrecy, ſteadineſs, vigour, and diſpatch, neceſſary to their ſucceſs. The ſame means by which you obtained the great advantages you now enjoy, muſt be continued and conſtantly exerted to ſecure and perpetuate them: And, indeed, we can think of no other form of government ſo well adapted, ſo perfectly congenial to your particular preſent circumſtances in Bengal.

31. It will not be neceſſary, we apprehend, to dwell upon a refutation of the flimſy, but ſpecious arguments advanced by Mr. Leyceſter for immediately filling up the vacancies at the board, and purſuing the literal ſenſe of your inſtructions, where you enlarge the board to ſixteen: We have already ſhewn, and Mr. Lyceſter, does not deny it, that the buſineſs of Burdwan and Midnapoor may be conducted to greater advantage by junior ſervants than by members of council. We have alſo ſhewn, that enlarging the council, beyond the number required for the buſineſs of the preſidency and ſubordinates has proved injurious to the Company. He knows it is our determination that ſeven or eight members ſhould conſtantly reſide at the preſidency, while all proper attention ſhall be given to your inveſtments and collections; and this we certainly judge to be the ſpirit of your orders. But if that gentleman means that no act can be valid that is executed by a leſs number of agents than you have expreſsly appointed, he renders void every deed, covenant, contract and obligation, entered into by the council, ſince the firſt eſtabliſhment of this ſettlement. He even renders null and of no effect the treaty with the preſent Nabob, in which he himſelf had a principal ſhare, and which we believe is not

ſigned

ſigned by more than half the Company's agents. In a word, we foreſee ſo many inconveniencies conſequent on a literal compliance with your inſtructions, that our duty obliges us to ſuſpend, and we think our powers authorize us in ſuſpending, at leaſt, if not revoking, thoſe orders, until your further pleaſure be known.

32. By conſulting our proceedings of the 10th of Auguſt and 18th September, you will be able to judge of the progreſs we have made in carrying your orders into execution, relative to the trade in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco. This ſubject we conſidered with all the attention poſſible, and regard to your intereſt and the good of the ſervice. We found, that to remove the inconveniencies of a free trade, prevent the oppreſſions daily committed, ſave this valuable article of commerce from ruin, and diffuſe the benefits reſulting indiſcriminately among all your ſervants intitled to duſtucks, it was neceſſary to veſt the whole in an excluſive company compoſed of the three firſt claſſes of your covenanted ſervants, the field officers, chaplains, and head-ſurgeons. In admitting the field-officers, and ſtating the proportions allotted to each claſs, we had particular regard to the preſent ſituation of your council and field-officers, who are now excluded many emoluments they before enjoyed. It is our opinion, that Gentlemen who have riſen to their ſtations with credit and reputation are certainly entitled to ſomething more than a ſubſiſtence; they even have a right to expect ſuch advantages in your ſervice as may enable them to return in a few years with independence to their native country. With reſpect to the Company, we are unanimouſly of opinion, it is more for their intereſt to be conſidered as ſuperiors than proprietors; and as the ſaid royal grant of the dewanny renders the 11th article unneceſſary, we are thereby enabled to ſubject the trade to a duty which will produce a clear annual revenue of 120,000 pounds ſterling. Whatever ſurplus of their revenues the Company may find themſelves poſſeſſed of, after diſcharging all the demands on this preſidency, we may imagine may be employed much more to their benefit, in ſupporting and extending the China trade, and aſſiſting the wants of the other preſidencies. However, ſhould it either appear, that we have miſtaken the Company's real intereſt, or that the profits of the trade will admit of encreaſed duties, it is our reſolution to give all poſſible ſatisfaction on theſe points to our honourable maſters, and to lay before you a fair, full, and candid repreſentation of the amount of the coſts, charges, and ſales of the firſt year.

33. We think it incumbent on us to obſerve, that the management of this important buſineſs was committed to Mr. Sumner. If the plan therefore ſhould prove ſo fortunate as to meet your approbation, the merit is chiefly due to that Gentleman, who ſpared no pains to acquire a thorough inſight into the ſubject, at the ſame time that he diſcharged the duties of the preſidency during Lord Clive's abſence much to our ſatisfaction. Mr. Sumner would have chearfully accepted the poſt of reſident at the Durbar, now grown an employment of conſequence ſince the grant of the dewanny; but we judged it to be more becoming his ſtation, more agreeable to your intention, and more for the benefit of the ſervice, that he ſhould remain at the preſidency, to take charge of the government in caſe of Lord Clive's abſence. We therefore determined to appoint Mr. Sykes to the Durbar, as he has already ſufficiently manifeſted his capacity and diligence in that employment.

34. When theſe diſpatches are finiſhed, we reſolve to apply ourſelves heartily to the reformation of the abuſes which have crept into almoſt all your public offices, and every department civil and military. The taſk is arduous, but not impracticable; and we are aſſured it becomes highly neceſſary to the ſervice. The ſame unanimity that has enabled the Committee to diſpatch ſo great a variety of important affairs ſince their eſtabliſhment, ſhall, we hope, be firmly continued and vigorouſly exerted, until we have accompliſhed every end propoſed at our appointment, until we have ſtemmed the torrent of luxury and corruption, and eſtabliſhed a ſpirit of induſtry, œconomy, and integrity, throughout every claſs of your ſervants.

35. We beg leave to conclude with aſſuring you, that it is the higheſt ambition of this Committee, to merit the confidence repoſed in them, by promoting, with their utmoſt diligence and abilities, the honour and intereſt of the East India Company, which have ever been the object of their moſt fervent wiſhes.

We have the honour to be with reſpect, Honourable Sirs,

Your moſt faithful humble Servants,

Fort William, the 30th September 1765.

Clive.
Wm. B. Sumner.
John Carnac.
H. Verelſt.
Fras. Sykes.

Supplement.

36. In juſtice to the memory of the late Nabob Meer Jaffier, we think it incumbent on us to acquaint you, that the horrible maſſacres wherewith he is charged by Mr. Holwell, in his "addreſs to the proprietors of Eaſt-India Stock," (p. 46) are cruel aſperſions on the character of that prince, which have not the leaſt foundation in truth. The ſeveral perſons there affirmed, and who have been generally thought to have been murdered by his order, are all now living, except two, who were put to death by Meeran, without the Nabob's conſent or knowledge; and it is with additional ſatisfaction we can aſſure you, that they were lately releaſed from confinement by the preſent Subah; which fully evinces the entire confidence he repoſes in the Company's protection, againſt all attacks on his government.

37. We are further to acquaint you, that, not ſatisfied with paying all due attention to the confirmation and ſecurity of your poſſeſſions in Bengal, Lord Clive has alſo obtained from the king Sunnuds for the five Northern provinces, and the ſtrongeſt ratification, under his majeſty's hand and ſeal, of all your former grants in the Carnatic.

38. Mr. Sykes has exerted his utmoſt diligence in procuring an exact eſtimate of the amount of the revenues of the Nabob's dominions, of which you are now not only the collectors but the proprietors; and we were in hopes of tranſmitting an accurate account of the ſame by the Admiral Stevens; but the books of the Sircar are ſo much behind, ſo many balances are outſtanding, and ſuch negligence appears in the collection of the revenues for ſome years paſt, owing, in ſome meaſure, to the conſtant diſturbances in the country, which prevented any regular collections from being made, that he has not been able yet to ſucceed to his entire ſatisfaction; and we therefore think it better to poſtpone the ſubject till our next diſpatches, when we can write with preciſion and certainty. At preſent, we can only affirm, that the acquiſition of the dewanny, and the agreement with the Nabob, will neceſſary turn out a prodigious encreaſe of your revenues, at the ſame time they muſt give ſtability to your power and influence.

39. You will obſerve, in our general letter from the public department, what has paſſed in council on the ſubject of the donation to the navy, which is, indeed, no more than a tranſcript of our conſultations. We here think it neceſſary to remark, that we cannot, in the preſent circumſtances of your affairs, and conſiſtently with our late engagements with the Nabob, either take upon us to pay ſo large a demand out of your revenues, or inſiſt on the Nabob's paying it out of his limited ſtipend; more eſpecially as it appears that the donation to the navy was never voluntary, but obtained from Meer Jaffier by dint of ſolicitations, and other means which never had his entire approbation.

40. It is with ſome regret we acquaint you, that we apprehend it will be neceſſary to reſume our late enquiry into the conduct of the Gentlemen of the deputation, having juſt received information from Nundcomar of further ſums paid to them out of the Nabob's treaſury, during their reſidence at Muxadabad. Mr. Johnſtone makes a principal and conſpicuous figure in this account alſo, having obtained a very large ſum beſides what is ſpecified in the diſtribution-liſt, or the narratives of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet, which, with the ſums received by the other Gentlemen, fully accounts for the Nabob's aſſertions, in his letter addreſſed to the Committee. The neceſſity we are under of diſpatching the ſhip, in order to receive the earlieſt notice of your ſentiments on our proceedings, and your further inſtructions, prevents our entering immediately upon the enquiry; of which, however, you may be aſſured, we ſhall tranſmit a faithful and particular account in our next advices.

We have the honour to be, with reſpect, honourable Sirs,

Your moſt faithful humble Servants,

Fort William, the 1ſt October, 1765.

Clive.
Wm. B. Sumner.
John Carnac.
H. Verelſt.
Fras. Sykes.

No. 87.

Copy of a letter from Lord Clive to Wm. B. Sumner, Esquire, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee, dated Great Ganges, 11th July, 1765.

To Wm. B. Sumner, Esq; &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

WE have often lamented that the Gentlemen of council, by precipitating the late treaty, had loſt the moſt glorious opportunity that could ever happen of ſettling matters upon that ſolid and advantageous footing for the Company, which no temporary invaſion could endanger. The true and only ſecurity for our commerce and territorial poſſeſſions in this country, is, in a manner, to always have it in our power to overawe the very Nabob we are bound by treaty to ſupport; a maxim contrary to this has of late been too much adopted; and from that fundamental error, as I muſt call it, has ſprung the innumerable evils, or at leaſt deficiencies, in our government, which, I have now the pleaſure to inform you, are in a fair way of being perfectly removed.

The Nabob, upon my repreſentation of the great expence of ſuch an army as will be neceſſary to ſupport him in his government, the large ſums due for reſtitution, and to the navy, together with the annual tribute which he will be under a neceſſity of paying to the king, hath conſented, and I have agreed, provided it ſhould obtain your approbation, and be duly ratified and confirmed by the king's Firmaun, That all the revenues of the country ſhall be appropriated to theſe purpoſes, fifty lacks of rupees per annum for himſelf excepted. Out of this ſum is to be defrayed all his expences, of every nature and denomination. Mahomed Reza Cawn, however, being of a diſpoſition extremely timorous, is deſirous of having the payment of the cavalry and Seapoys paſs through his hands, though included in the ſaid fifty lacks. This, I think will be complied with.

I am of opinion alſo, that certain ſtipends (out of the abovementioned ſum) ſhould be fixed for the Begum, for the Chuta Nabob, and for the reſt of the Nabob's brothers and nephews, (Merum's ſon included) or elſe we muſt be ſubject to frequent complaints from theſe quarters; for I am perſuaded, that the dependants and parafites of the preſent Nabob will always keep him in diſtreſs, be his income what it may.

Although the ſum propoſed to be ſtipulated for the Nabob, conſidering the preſent great expences and demands, may appear large, yet by what I can learn, his expence exceeds the ſum to be allowed; and, although it is certain that neither his education nor abilities will enable him to appear to any advantage at the head of theſe great and rich provinces; yet, I think, we are bound in honour to ſupport the dignity of his ſtation, ſo far as is conſiſtent with the true intereſt of the Company.

The particulars of this matter may be further adjuſted in my preſence by Mr. Sykes (to whom I have communicated my ideas) if the plan be approved by the Select Committee; and the whole may be finally concluded to our ſatisfaction, upon the Company's being appointed the king's Duan; who will be impowered by the nature of their office, as well as by the Nabob's conſent, to ſettle every point.

Mr. Sykes, I imagine, will find no difficulty in procuring the five or ſix laaks of rupees from the treaſury to anſwer the immediate exigencies of the Company, agreeable to the repreſentation made to me in your letter of the 7th inſtant, which did not come to my hands till late in the evening before I left Mutajyl.

In conformity to your requeſt in your ſaid letter, I incloſe Mr. Vanſittart's tranſlation of the late regulations, the original of which I had the honour to tranſmit to you on the 9th inſtant. I have the honour to be with the greateſt reſpect,

Gentlemen, your moſt obedient humble Servant.

Great Ganges, the 11th July, 1765. CLIVE.

No. 88.

To Wm. B. Sumner, Esq; &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

WE had yeſterday a conference with Sujah Dowlah, wherein we informed him of the full powers with which we are inveſted by the Select Committee, and our reſolution, in conſequence thereof, to eſtabliſh a ſolid peace, upon terms honourable and advantageous to the country princes, as well as to the Company. We then opened to him ſuch part of

our plan as related to himſelf; in particular, we told him that the whole of his country, except Illahabad and its dependencies, ſhould be reſtored. His expreſſions of joy and gratitude upon this occaſion were many and warm; ſuch an inſtance of generoſity in a victorious enemy exceeded his moſt ſanguine expectations, and, we doubt not, will be the beſt foundation of that union and amity, in this part of Indoſtan, which we ſo earneſtly wiſh to ſecure. He conſents to pay fifty laaks to the Company, for indemnification, in the following manner; ten laaks in money, and ten in jewels, on the concluſion of the treaty; five laaks on his being put in poſſeſſion of his country; and the remaining twenty-five laaks in the courſe of twelve months. Theſe terms are, we think, moderate and equitable, both for him and the Company.

We have been informed, that the king is deſirous of poſſeſſing Illahabad, which together with its dependencies, produces ten laaks per annum; and alſo the province of Corah, which produces about eighteen. The former, we are of opinion, may with great propriety be ceded to him, as a royal revenue; but the latter, we rather wiſh, ſhould be in the poſſeſſion of Sujah Dowlah; we ſhall not, however, make a point of refuſing it to his Majeſty, if he ſhould be very ſolicitous to obtain it, unleſs we judge it incompatible with the reſt of our plan.

We ſhall not be able to give you any further information, till we have had a conference with his Majeſty, which, we hope, will be in a few days, at Illahabad. We are with great reſpect,

Gentlemen, your moſt obedient and moſt humble Servants,

Benares, 3d Auguſt, 1765.

CLIVE,
JOHN CARNAC.

No. 89.

To Wm. B. Sumner, Eſq; &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

YEſterday we paid a viſit to the King upon buſineſs. His Majeſty preſented Lord Clive with his demands in the Perſian language, a tranſlation of which is incloſed. He inſiſted very ſtrenuouſly that his revenues ſhould be made agreeable to the engagements entered into by the late Nabob Meer Jaffier and Coſſim Ally Cawn, viz. twenty-ſix laaks of rupees in money, and five and a half laaks in Jaggiers. This laſt article we could not conſent to; and the King, with ſome difficulty, was perſuaded to give it up, on our repreſenting the great expence of ſupporting an army for the defence of the provinces, and the large demand of the young Nabob for the maintenance of his forces.

His Majeſty then demanded the payment of all arrears due to him from the late Nabob Meer Jaffier, Coſſim Ally, and the preſent Nabob Nizam ul Dowla, amounting in the whole to thirty-two laaks; in anſwer to which, we pleaded the abſolute impoſſibility of paying one rupee, from the poverty of the treaſury, occaſioned by the long and expenſive war we had been engaged in, partly on his Majeſty's account, and the great balance ſtill due from the Nabob for reſtitution to the ſufferers. He expreſſed ſome warmth and diſpleaſure at our obſtinacy on this point; however, after ſome debates, he at laſt acquieſced.

The next demand was, that the countries of Illahabad and Corah (Bulwantſing's Zamindary excepted) ſhould be ceded to him as a royal demeſne for the ſupport of his dignity. This we very readily conſented to, as Sujah Dowla made not the leaſt objection, well knowing that after our departure he could eaſily ſettle this matter with the King to the ſatisfaction of both parties. His Majeſty engages, however, to allow Najif Cawn an handſome annual allowance, for which the King's revenues of Bengal are to be ſecurity.

We then preſented the King with two Arzies, deſiring he would grant to Nizam a Dowla the Nizamud of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and to the Company the Dewannee of the ſame provinces; to both which his Majeſty has ſigned his fiat, and the proper inſtruments for both are now drawing out.

As the king has been prevailed upon to aſſign to Sujah Dowla five laaks of rupees on his Bengal revenues, there will be no farther delay on account of the firſt payment of indemnification, which is to be twelve laaks in money, and eight in jewels.

The treaty therefore between Sujah Dowla on the one part, and Nizam a Dowla and the Company on the other, is now drawing out, and we make no doubt of ſending you in a few days the agreeable news of every thing being finally ſettled; and ſhall follow it ourſelves with all poſſible expedition. We are, Gentlemen,

Illahabad, Auguſt 12, 1765

Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

CLIVE.
JOHN CARNAC.

No. 90.

Treaty between the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla, the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, and the Engliſh Company, executed at Illahabad, Auguſt 16th, 1765.

(Sealed and approved by the King.)

WHEREAS the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Baron Clive of Plaſſey, Knight companion of the moſt Honourable order of the Bath, Major General and commander of the forces, preſident of the council, and governor of Fort William, and of all the ſettlements belonging to the united Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa; and John Carnac, Eſquire, Brigadier General, Colonel in the ſervice of the ſaid Company, and commanding officer of their forces upon the Bengal eſtabliſhment; are inveſted with full and ample powers on the behalf of his excellency the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, Subahdar of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and likewiſe on behalf of the united Company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, to negociate, ſettle, and finally to conclude a firm and laſting peace with his highneſs the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla, Vizier of the Empire: be it known to all thoſe to whom it ſhall or may in any manner belong, that the above-named plenipotentiaries have agreed upon the following articles with his Highneſs.

1. A perpetual and univerſal peace, ſincere friendſhip, and firm union, ſhall be eſtabliſhed between his highneſs Shujah ul Dowla and his heirs on the one part, and his excellency Nudjum ul Dowla and the Engliſh Eaſt India Company on the other; ſo that the ſaid contracting powers ſhall give the greateſt attention to maintain between themſelves, their dominions, and their ſubjects, this reciprocal friendſhip, without permitting on either ſide any kind of hoſtilities to be committed from henceforth, for any cauſe, or under any pretence whatſoever; and every thing ſhall be carefully avoided which might hereafter prejudice the union now happily eſtabliſhed.

2. In caſe the dominions of his highneſs Shujah ul Dowla ſhall at any time hereafter be attacked, his excellency Nudjum ul Dowla and the Engliſh Company ſhall aſſiſt him with a part or the whole of their forces, according to the exigency of his affairs, and ſo far as may be conſiſtent with their own ſecurity; and if the dominions of his excellency Nudjum ul Dowla, or the Engliſh Company, ſhall be attacked, his highneſs ſhall in like manner aſſiſt them with a part or the whole of his forces: in the caſe of the Engliſh Company's forces being employed in his highneſs's ſervice, the extraordinary expence of the ſame is to be defrayed by him.

3. His Highneſs ſolemnly engages never to entertain or receive Coſſim Ally Khan, the late Subahdar of Bengal, &c. Sombroo the aſſaſſin of the Engliſh, nor any of the European deſerters, within his dominions, nor to give the leaſt countenance ſupport, or protection to them; he likewiſe ſolemnly engages to deliver up to the Engliſh whatever Europeans may in future deſert from them into his country.

4. The king Shah Aalum ſhall remain in full poſſeſſion of Korah, and ſuch part of the province of Illahabad as he now poſſeſſes which are ceded to his Majeſty as a royal demenſe for the ſupport of his dignity and expences.

5. His highneſs Shujah ul Dowla engages in the moſt ſolemn manner to continue Bulwantſing in the Zemindarrees of Benâres, Ghazepore, and all thoſe diſtricts he poſſeſſed at the time he came over to the late Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan and the Engliſh, on condition of his paying the ſame revenue as heretofore.

6. In conſideration of the great expence incurred by the Engliſh Company in carrying on the late war, his Highneſs agrees to pay them (fifty) 50 lacks of rupees, in the following manner, viz. (twelve) 12 lacks in money, and a depoſit in jewels to the amount of (eight) 8 lacks, upon the ſigning of this treaty; (five) 5 lacks by monthly payments, ſo as that the whole may be diſcharged in (thirteen) 13 months from the date hereof.

7. It being firmly reſolved to reſtore to his Highneſs the county of Benâres, and the other diſtricts now rented by Bulwantſing, notwithſtanding the grant of the ſame from the King to the Engliſh Company; it is therefore agreed that they ſhall be ceded to his Highneſs in manner following, viz. They ſhall remain in the hands of the Engliſh Company, with their revenues, till the expiration of the agreement between Bulwantſing and the Company, being on the 27th November next; after which his Highneſs ſhall enter into poſſeſſion, the fort of Chunar excepted, which is not to be evacuated until the 6th article of this treaty be fully complied with.

8. His highneſs ſhall allow the Engliſh Company to carry on a trade duty free throughout the whole of his dominions.

9. All the relations and ſubjects of his Highneſs, who in any manner aſſiſted the Engliſh during the courſe of the late war, ſhall be forgiven, and no ways moleſted for the ſame.

10. As ſoon as this treaty is executed, the Engliſh forces ſhall be withdrawn from the dominions of his Highneſs, except ſuch as may be neceſſary for the garriſon of Chunar, or for the

the defence and protection of the King in the city of Illahabad, if his Majesty should require a force for that purpose.

11. His highness the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla, his excellency the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, and the English Company, promise to observe sincerely and strictly all the articles contained and settled in the present treaty; and they will not suffer the same to be infringed, directly or indirectly, by their respective subjects; and the said contracting powers generally and reciprocally guarantee to each other all the stipulations of the present treaty.

Signed, sealed, and solemnly sworn to, according to their respective faiths, by the contracting parties, at Illahabad, this 16th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1765, in the presence of us,

Edmund Maskelyne,
Archibald Swinton,
George Vansittart.

Clive L. S.
John Carnac (L. S.)

Shujah ul Dowla's Seal (L. S.) and ratification.
Mirza Coffim Khan,
Rajah Seetabroy,
Meer Musshala.

Fort William, September 30th, 1765.
(A true Copy.)
Alex. Campbell, S. S. C.

Articles of agreement between the King Shah Aalum and the Company, relating to the tribute to be paid to him from the revenues of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, dated August 19th 1765.

The Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah agrees to pay to his Majesty out of the revenues of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, the sum of 26 lacks of rupees a year, without any deduction for Batta on bills of exchange, by regular monthly payments, amounting to rupees 216,666, 10, 9. per annum, the first payment to commence from the 1st September of the present year; and the English Company, in consideration of his Majesty's having been graciously pleased to grant them the Dewannee of Bengal, &c. do engage themselves to be security for the regular payment of the same. It shall be paid month by month from the factory of Patna to Rajah Shitabroy, or whomsoever his Majesty may think proper to nominate, that it may be forwarded by him to the court; but in case the territories of the aforesaid Nabob should be invaded by any foreign enemy, a deduction is then to be made out of the stipulated revenues, proportionable to the damage that may be sustained.

In consideration of Nudjuf Khan's having joined the English forces, and acted in his Majesty's service in the late war, his Majesty will be graciously pleased to allow him the sum of two lacks of rupees a year, to be paid by equal monthly payments; the first payment to commence from the 1st of September of the present year; and in default thereof the English Company, who are guarantees for the same, will make it good out of the revenue allotted to his Majesty from the territories of Bengal. If the territories of Bengal should at any time be invaded, and on that account a deduction be made out of the royal revenue, in such case a proportionable deduction shall also be made out of Nudjuf Khan's allowance.

Dated the 19th of August 1765.
Fort William, 30th September 1765.
(A true Copy)
Alexander Campbell, S. S. C.

No. 91.

Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, granting the Dewannee of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, to the Company. Dated August, 12th, 1765.

AT this happy time, our royal firmaun, indispensably requiring obedience, is issued: that whereas, in consideration of the attachment and services of the high and mighty, the noblest of exalted nobles, the chief of illustrious warriors, our faithful servants and sincere well-wishers, worthy of our royal favours, the English Company, we have granted them the Dewannee of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, from the beginning of the Fussul Ruby of the Bengal year 1171, as a free gift and ultumgau, without the association of any other person, and with an exemption from the payment of the customs of the Dewannee, which used to be paid to the court; it is requisite that the said Company engage to be security for the sum of twenty-six lacks of rupees a year, for our royal revenue, which sum has been appointed from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla Bahadar, and regularly remit the same to the royal Sircar: and in this case, as the said Company are obliged to keep up a large army for the protection of the provinces of Bengal, &c. we have granted to them whatsoever may remain out of the revenues of the said provinces, after remitting the sum of twenty-six lacks of rupees to the royal

Sircar

Sircar, and providing for the expences of the Nizamut: it is requiſite that our royal deſcendants the Viziers the beſtowers of dignity, the Omrahs high in rank, the great officers, the Muttaſuddies of the Dewannee, the managers of the buſineſs of the Sultanut, the Jagheerdars and Croories, as well the future as the preſent, uſing their conſtant endeavours for the eſtabliſhment of this our royal command, leave the ſaid office in poſſeſſion of the ſaid Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever; looking upon them to be inſured from diſmiſſion or removal, they muſt on no account whatſoever give them any interruption, and they muſt regard them as excuſed and exempted from the payment of all the cuſtoms of the dewannee, and royal demands. Knowing our orders on the ſubject to be moſt ſtrict and poſitive, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of Sophar of the 6th year of the Jaloos (the 12th Aug. 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the paper which has received our ſign manual, our royal commands are iſſued: That, in conſideration of the attachment and ſervices of the high and mighty, the nobleſt of exalted nobles, the chief of illuſtrious warriors, our faithful ſervants and ſincere well-wiſhers, worthy of our royal favours, the Engliſh Company, we have granted them the Dewannee of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, from the beginning of the Fuſſul Rubby of the Bengal year 1772, as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the aſſociation of any other perſon, and with an exemption from the cuſtoms of the Dewannee, which uſed to be paid to the court on condition of their being ſecurity for the ſum of twenty-ſix lacks of rupees a year for our royal revenue; which ſum has been appointed from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla Bahadar; and after remitting the royal revenue, and providing for the expences of the Nizamut, whatſoever may remain we have granted to the ſaid Company.

The Dewannee of the province of Bengal.
The Dewannee of the province of Bahar.
The Dewannee of the province of Orixa.

No. 92.

Fort William, the 7th September, 1765.

Firmaun in confirmation of Lord Clive's Jagheer.

WHEREAS a Sunnud has been preſented to us under the ſeal of the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla Bahadre, to the following purport; viz. "The ſum of 2,22,958 ſicca rupees "and odd, agreeably to the Dewannee Sunnud, and the Sunnud of the high and mighty Shu- "jaul-Moolk Kiſſam-ul-Dowla Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn Bahadre, has been appointed "from the Pergunna of Calcutta, &c. in the Sircar of Sautgaum, &c. in the province of Ben- "gal (the paradiſe of the earth) the Zemindarry of the Engliſh Company, as an uncondi- "tional Jagheer to the high and mighty Zubdut-ul-Moolk Nuſſeer-ul-Dowlah Lord Clive "Bahadre; now likewiſe the ſaid Pergunnahs are confirmed as an unconditional Jagheer to "the high and mighty aforeſaid, from the 16th of May of the 1764th year of the chriſtian "ſtyle (anſwering to the 14th of Zecada of the 1177 of the Hegyra) to the expiration of ten "years, they ſhall appertain as an unconditional Jagheer to the high and mighty aforeſaid; "and after the expiration of this term, they ſhall revert as an unconditional Jagheer and per- "petual gift to the Company; and if the high and mighty aforeſaid ſhould die within the ſaid "term, they ſhall revert to the Company immediately upon his death. And whereas the ſaid "Sunnud has met with our approbation, at this happy time therefore our royal firmaun, in- "diſpenſably requiring obedience, is iſſued, that in conſideration of the fidelity of the Engliſh "Company, and the high and mighty aforeſaid, the ſaid Jagheer ſtand confirmed agreeably "to the aforeſaid Sunnud. It is requiſite that the preſent and future Muttaſuddies, the Chow- "dries, Canongoes, Muccudims, Ryotts, Muzzaries, and all other inhabitants of the Pergun- "na of Calcutta, &c. in the Sircar of Sautgaum, &c. regard the high and mighty aforeſaid, "during the forementioned term, and after him the Company aforeſaid as unconditional Jag- "heerdars, and regularly pay them the revenues of the ſaid Pergunnas."

Written the 24th of Soffar of the 6th year
of the Jaloos (the 12th of Auguſt 1765.

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the paper which has received our ſign manual, our royal commands are iſſued: that whereas the ſum of 2,22,958. ſicca rupees, and odd, has been appointed from the Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. in the Sircar of Sautgaum, &c. the Zemindarry of the Engliſh Company, as an unconditional Jagheer to the high and mighty Zubdul-ul-Moolk Nuſſeer-ul-Dowla Lord Clive Bahadre, agreeably to the Dewannee Sunnud, and Sunnud of the Nazim of the province; in conſideration therefore, of the attachment of the High and Mighty aforeſaid, we have been graciouſly pleaſed to confirm to him the ſaid Purgunnahs for the ſpace of ten years, commencing from the 16th of May of the 1764th year of the Chriſtian ſtyle, or 14th of Zecada, of the 1177th year of the Hegyra; and in conſideration of the attachment of the Engliſh Company, we have granted the ſaid Purgunnahs to them, after the expiration of the aforeſaid term, as an unconditional Jagheer and perpetual gift; and if the High and Mighty aforeſaid ſhould die within this term, the ſaid Purgunnahs are to revert immediately to the Engliſh Company.

A true tranſlation.
GEORGE VANSITTART,
Perſian Tranſlator.

No. 93.

Firmaun from the King Shah Aalum, confirming to the Company the Chuclahs of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, and the twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. before ceded to them by the Nabobs Meer Coſſim Ally Khan, and Meer Jaffier Ally Khan. Dated Auguſt 12th 1765.

AT this happy time, our royal Firmaun, indiſpenſably requiring obedience, is iſſued, That the Chuclahs of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, &c. and alſo the twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. (the Zemindarry of the High and Mighty, the nobleſt of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illuſtrious warriors, our faithful ſervants, and ſincere well-wiſhers, worthy of our royal favours, the Engliſh Company) which were granted to the ſaid Company in the time of Meer Mahomed Coſſim, and Meer Mahomed Jaffier Khan deceaſed; We, in conſideration of the attachment of the ſaid Company have been graciouſly pleaſed to confirm to them, from the beginning of the Fuſſul Rubby of the Bengal year 1172, as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the aſſociation of any other perſon. It is requiſite that our royal deſcendants, the Viziers the beſtowers of dignity, the Omrahs high in rank, the great officers, the Muttaſuddies of the Dewannee, the managers of the buſineſs of the Saltanut, the Jagheerdars and Croories, as well the future as the preſent, uſing their conſtant endeavours for the eſtabliſhment of this our royal command, leave the ſaid diſtricts and Purgunnahs in poſſeſſion of the ſaid Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be inſured from diſmiſſion or removal, they muſt on no account whatſoever give them any interruption; and they muſt regard them as excuſed and exempted from the payment of all manner of cuſtoms and demands. Knowing our orders on this ſubject to be moſt ſtrict and poſitive, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of Sophar, of the 6th year of the Jaloos, (the 12th of Auguſt, 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun

Agreeably to the paper which has received our ſign manual, our royal commands are iſſued, that the Chuclahs of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, &c. and alſo the twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. (the Zemindarry of the Engliſh Company) which were granted to the ſaid Company in the time of Meer Mahomed Coſſim and Meer Mahomed Jaffier Khan, deceaſed, be confirmed to the ſaid Company, as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the aſſociation of any other perſon.

Chuclah of Burdwan.
Chuclah of Midnapore.
Chuclah of Chittagong.
The twenty-four Purgunnahs of Calcutta, &c. (the Zemindarry of the Engliſh Company.)

Fort William, September 30th 1765.
(A true copy.)
Alex. Campbell, S. S. C.

No. 94.

Fort William, the 7th of September 1765.

Firmaun confirming the Company's poſſeſſions in the Carnatic

AT this happy time, our Royal Firmaun, indiſpenſably requiring obedience, is iſſued, that whatſoever in the Sircar of the Carnatic was granted by former Kings, or has lately been given in the neighbourhood of Madraſs, &c. by the Nabob Seraje-ul-Dowla, to the High and Mighty, the nobleſt of exalted Nobles, the chief of illuſtrious warriors, our faithful ſervants and ſincere well-wiſhers, worthy of our royal favours, the Engliſh Company; We, in conſideration of the attachment and ſervices of the ſaid Company, have been graciouſly pleaſed to confirm to them as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the aſſociation of any other perſon. It is requiſite that our royal deſcendants, the Viziers the beſtowers of dignity, the Omrahs high in rank, the great Officers, the Muttaſuddies of the Dewannee, the managers of the buſineſs of the Sultanut, the Jagheerdars, and Croories, as well the future as the preſent, uſing their conſtant endeavours for the eſtabliſhment of this our royal command, leave the ſaid Sircar in poſſeſſion of the ſaid Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be inſured from diſmiſſion or removal, they muſt on no account whatſoever, give them any interruption, and they muſt regard them as excuſed and exempted from the payment of all manner of cuſtoms and demands. Knowing our orders on this ſubject to be moſt ſtrict, let them not deviate therefrom.

Written the 24th of Soffar, of the 6th year of the Jaloos,
(the 12th of Auguſt, 1765.)

Contents of the Zimmun.

Agreeably to the paper which has received, our ſign manual, whatſoever in the Sircar of the Carnatic was granted by former Kings, or has lately been given, in the neighbourhood of Madraſs, &c. by the Nabob Seraje-ul-Dowla, to the High and Mighty, the Nobleſt of exalted Nobles, the Chief of illuſtrious warriors, our faithful ſervants and ſincere well-wiſhers, worthy of our royal favours, the Engliſh Company; We, in conſideration of the attachment and ſervices of the ſaid Company, have been graciouſly pleaſed to confirm to them, from the beginning of the Fuſſul Rubby Tuccacovy-al of the Bengal year 1172, as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the aſſociation of any other Perſon.

A true tranſlation.
George Vanſittart,
Perſian Tranſlator.

No. 95.

Firmaun for Seccacool, &c. being for the five Northern Provinces.

WHEREAS Salabud Jung, Subadar of the Daccan, having given the Sircar of Seccacool, &c. to the French Company, and this not being approved of by the Court, nor the royal Firmaun granted, the Engliſh Company, who are our ſincere well-wiſhers, ſent a large force and drove them out. At this happy time our royal Firmaun, indiſpenſably requiring obedience is iſſued; that in conſideration of the fidelity of the high and mighty, the nobleſt of exalted Nobles, the chief of illuſtrious warriors, our faithful ſervants and ſincere well-wiſhers, worthy of our royal favours, the Engliſh Company, we have granted them the ſaid Sircars, agreeably to the Zimmun, as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the aſſociation of any other perſon, from the beginning of the Fuſſul Rubby of the Bengal year 1172. It is requiſite that our royal deſcendants, the Viziers, the beſtowers of dignity, the Omrahs high in rank, the great officers, the Muttaſuddies of the Dewannee, the managers of the buſineſs of the Sultanut, the Jagheerdars and Croories, as well the future as the preſent, uſing their conſtant endeavours for the eſtabliſhment of this our royal commaad, leave the ſaid diſtricts in poſſeſſion of the ſaid Company, from generation to generation, for ever and ever. Looking upon them to be inſured from diſmiſſion or removal, they muſt on no account whatſoever give them any interruption; and they muſt regard them as excuſed and exempted from the payment of all manner of cuſtoms and demands. Knowing our orders on this ſubject to be moſt ſtrict and poſitive, let them not deviate therefrom.—Written the 24th of Soffar of the 6th year of the Jaloos (the 12th Auguſt 1765.)

Contents

Contents of the Zimmun.

Whereas Salabud Jung, Subadar of the Daccan having given the Sircars of Seecacool, &c. to the French Company, and this not being approved of by the Court, nor the Firmaun granted, the Engliſh Company, who are our ſincere well-wiſhers, ſent a large force and drove them out, agreeably to the Arzee of the 24th of Soffar of the 6th year, which has received our ſign manual; our royal commands are iſſued, That we have granted to the high and mighty, the nobleſt of exalted Nobles, the chief of illuſtrious warriors, our faithful ſervants and ſincere well-wiſhers, worthy of our royal favours, the Engliſh Company in conſideration of their fidelity, the ſaid Sircars as a free gift and Ultumgau, without the aſſociation of any other perſon.

Sircar Seecacool.
Sircar Rejemundry.
Sircar Eloor.
Sircar Muſtapha-Nuggur.
Sircar Moorlazy-Nuggur or Cuttoor.

A true tranſlation.
GEORGE VANSITTART,
Perſian tranſlator.

No. 96.

Agreement between the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla and the Company, relating to the allowance to be paid him for the ſupport of the Nizamut of Bengal, dated Septtember the 30th, 1765.

THE King having been graciouſly pleaſed to grant to the Engliſh Company the Dewannee of Bengal, Bahar and Orixa, with the revenues thereof, as a free gift, for ever, on certain conditions; whereof one is, That there ſhall be a ſufficient allowance out of the ſaid revenues for ſupporting the expences of the Nizamut: be it known to all whom it may concern, That I do agree to accept of the annual ſum of Sicca ruppees 5,386,131. 9, as an adequate allowance for the ſupport of the Nizamut; which is to be regularly paid as follows; viz. The ſum of Sicca rupees 1,778,854. 1, for all my houſhold expences, ſervants, &c. and the remaining ſum of rupees 3,607,277. 8, for the maintenance of ſuch horſe, Seapoys, Peons, Bercundaſſes, &c. as may be thought neceſſary for my Sewaury, and the ſupport of my dignity only, ſhould ſuch an expence hereafter be found neceſſary to be kept up, but on no account ever to exceed that amount; and having a perfect reliance on Maeen ul Dowla, I deſire he may have the diſburſing of the above ſum of rupees 3607,277. 8, for the purpoſes beforementioned. This agreement, by the bleſſing of God, I hope will be inviolably obſerved, as long as the Engliſh Company's factories continue in Bengal.

Fort William, the 30th September, 1765.

(A true copy.)
Alexander Campbell, S. S. C.

No: 97.

A STATEMENT of charges which were allowed for the collections of the BAHAR PROVINCE, in Bengal year 1172, or Engliſh year 1765, viz.

WAGES.

Amlah Sapaw, or wages to Aſſwars, Burgundaſſes, &c. from 1ſt of Jumadil Owel to the end of Rubby Sanny Shon 6 is twelve months.

Aſſwars	874169 3 10		
Burgundaſſes	198799 11 15		
Khaſburdars	49000 — —		
Cubdars, Kiſſnutgars, Sutaburdars, &c. Servants	236648 10 —		
Juzzoulburdars, or muſqueteers	24510 — —		
Tellingah Seapoys	7364 — —		
		1390492	10 5

Sirriſta Dewanny ba Eſm Nabob Ackramut Dowla Bahadre, &c. Bamurjema Tuſſil Allahydah, or wages of the aforeſaid Nabob and his people. Particulars of this ſhall be hereafter wrote, as ſoon as they can be obtained from the Patna Congos — 163443 11 10

Mutfurcaut, or wages to people of diſtinction that have been ſerviceable in the government; viz.

Nabob Ackedutmund Cawn, at 220 Rs. per month for 12 Months, is	2400 — —		
Shaik Mahmud Punnah	1745 12 —		
Fuzz Ally Cawn	11550 — —		
Mirza Mahmud Huſſen	1634 — —		
Himmut Cawn, ſon to Muſſall Cawn	2990 — —		
Nabob Abdul Ally Cawn	12000 — —		
Share Ally Cawn	3600 — —		
Abdool Cader Cawn	360 — —		
Murrallydur, &c. Hircarrahs	10676 15 —		
Meer Cullen, Perfume maker	275 — —		
		47231	11 —

Meer Mahmud Jummaul, &c. Tynaut Hoozor Jonab Ally or Meer Mahmud Jummaul, &c. who is the preſence of Nabob Najemud Doula in Muxadavad, but receives his and his people's wages from Subah Bar; viz.

Meer Mahmud Jummaul	366697 12 10		
Mirza Mahmud Ruffy	44100 — —		
Connuck Sing Chowdry and Beldars	31594 3 —		
		442392	15 10

Crutch Khonſummany, or charges of Nabob's elephants, camels, horſes, bullocks, &c. — 65000 — —

Ze-aſſut Ingrez Sau-ha, bon Huſbul Crutch, or invitations and entertainments of Engliſh gentlemen, charges already made — 45373 2 5

Rupees of ſorts 2153934 2 10

APPENDIX, No. 97.

HUCKECUT BUNDABUST, SUBA BAHAN, or Statement of Revenues to be received from the Bahar province in Bengal year 1172, or Engliſh 1765, the collection to conclude in Aſſin year 1173 or Engliſh September 1766, viz.

Bemurjem Affrad Bundbuſt, or the amount agreeable to the account particulars ſettled by Mahmud Raza Cawn, Rajah Doolubram and Juggut Seat			4745501 15 10
Goonjoyſe Mahalat, or profit on Mahalls, &c.			51000 — —
Joyguires, &c. to be received, particulars of theſe ſhall be wrote as ſoon as procured, viz.			
Nahob Najem ul Dowlah		902960 8 15	
Joyguier daran, or Joyguires allowed to different perſons, none of whom are now exiſting, and which ſums have been appropriated to any improper uſe	195870 11 5 67908 12 10 26928 7 5		
		290707 15 —	
			1193668 7 15
Babut Yaft, Subadavry ou Dewanny, or the Amount whatever to be received by the Nabob of that province for himſelf, and the Padſhahs Dewan, as their real profits		500000 — —	
Deduct allowed Rajah Doolubram, and Mahmud Reza Cawn, as Duſtore or cuſtom		171000 — —	
			329000 — —
			63,19,170 7 5
Deduct Crutch Bemurjem Affrad Allahiddah, or charges allowed to the Nabob, &c. for collecting in the revenues, even other contingent charges attending the ſame, as now ſettled, viz.			
Aſſwars	210000		
Burgundaſſes	80000		
Nabob's own ſervants, as Chubdars Sutarburdars, &c	120000		
Caſburdars or muſqueteers	12000	422000 — —	
Sirreſtah Dewanny, or wages of Nabob, &c. viz. Nabob Ahatramut Dowlah, and his family, A. Rs. 15000 per Menſem	180000		
Maharaza Deruznarrain 7500 A. Rs. per Menſem	90000		
		270000 — —	
Muddut Crutch or wages allowed yearly to people of diſtinction, that have been ſerviceable in the government, viz.			
Nabob Abdul aly Cawn	12000		
Nabob Eckydutmund Cawn	2400		
Ally Cooly Cawn	12600		
Share Aly Cawn	2400		
Himmut Cawn	2400		
Fyz Ally Cawn's children	13800		
Meerlydhur, &c. excepting Hircarrahs	7800		
Golaum Caddaur Cawn	360		
Meer Cullen, perfume maker	360		
Iſmael Ally Cawn	1800		
Shaik Abdul Huſſen	600		
Moſoyt Sing	2400		
		58920 — —	
			750920 — —
		Rupees	5568250 7 5

SUBAH BAHAR PROVINCE.

D				Cr.			
To Amount which is to be paid Annually to different Perſons in Conſequence of their having Sunnunds, as per Account:				By Jumma Bemurgem Bundbuſt, or Amount of to be received agreeable to the Statement -	4745501	15	10
Joyguiers - 477141 1 15				By Babut Goonjoys, or Profit on Pergunnahs and Mahalls, the particulars ſhall be hereafter wrote as ſoon as procured - - -	51000	0	0
Altummuggah 297300 15 5							
Muddutmoſh - 50604 1 15							
	825046	2	15		4796501	15	10
To Amount allowed to Mahmud Reza Cawn and Doolubram as Duſtore - -	171000	0	0	By Amount of particular Accounts of what the Subah, &c. received Yearly for charges formerly to the Year 1173, are now brought to account, viz.			
To Muddut Crutch, or Charges as now ſettled for the collections of this Year by Mahmud Reza Cawn, &c. cannot be reduced - - - - - -	750920	0	0	JOYGUIRES, viz.			
				Nabob Najim ul Dowla 902960 8 15			
				Joyguierdarom, or Joyguires, as allowed to different Perſons 673011 12 15			
	1746966	2	15		1575972	5	10
				Altummuggah or Charity - - -	365202	12	0
				Muddulmoſh - - -	77539	9	0
					2018714	10	10
To Balance to be received this Year - - - - -	5568250	7	5	By Yaft Subadarray on Dewanny, as per Account - - - - - - -	500000	0	0
Rupees	7315216	10	10	Rupees	7315216	10	10

No. 98.

Fort William, the 7th September 1765.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. &c.

My Lord,

IT is with the utmoſt ſatisfaction we have the honour to congratulate your lordſhip on your ſafe return to the preſidency, and to expreſs our earneſt approbation of the prudent and effectual meaſures you have purſued to ſtop the effuſion of human blood, to lay the foundation of future tranquility to theſe unhappy provinces, which have long been the ſcene of deſolation, to eaſe the Company from the inſupportable weight of a ruinous war, and to bring to a proſperous iſſue the ſeveral important objects recommended to your attention by this committee.

The obtaining ſo extaordinary an acquiſition of revenue and influence to the Company, by means the moſt likely to conciliate the affections of the country powers, and ſecure their repoſe and happineſs, are ſervices of ſuch evident and eſſential conſequences, as cannot fail to increaſe your lordſhip's high reputation with the public, and juſtify your conſtituents in veſting this committee with plenary powers, to purſue whatever meaſures ſhould appear to us conducive to the public good.

Firmly

Firmly perſuaded that it is neceſſary to the ſecurity of the valuable poſſeſſions they now enjoy, and to the very exiſtence of the Company in Bengal, as well as conformable to the ſpirit of our appointment, that we continue to exert our authority, in order to effect that general reformation ſo neceſſary in itſelf and agreeable to the wiſhes of the honourable court of directors; we beg leave to repeat to your lordſhip, that the ſame confidence and unanimity which have hitherto ſubſiſted among the ſeveral members of this committee, ſhall be continued in the proſecution of this arduous but ſalutary undertaking.

We remain, with ſentiments of the greateſt eſteem,

Fort William,
the 7th September 1765.

My Lord,
Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient, and moſt humble ſervants.

No. 99.

Fort William, the 7th September 1765.

To Brigadier General John Carnac.

Sir,

WE embrace with pleaſure the opportunity which your return to the ſettlement affords us of offering you our thanks for the faithful ſervices done the public, particularly for your ſteady perſeverance in reducing Sujah Dowla to the neceſſity of ſubmiſſion; and the farther attention you have ſhewn to the intereſt of the Company, and honour of this committee, by co-operating ſo cordially with Lord Clive, in attaining the ſeveral important objects recommended in our inſtructions.

Juſtly ſenſible of the regard you have ever paid to the intereſt of your conſtituents, we aſſure ourſelves that you will continue to exert the ſame zeal, as a member of the ſelect committee, and join heartily with us in aſſiſting his lordſhip to bring to a happy concluſion the many and eſſential points that ſtill remain to be adjuſted, if we would ſecure the important advantages already obtained, give ſtability to the regulations we have eſtabliſhed, and permanence to the treaties we have executed.

We beg leave to aſſure you that we are, with great eſteem,

Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervants.

No. 100.

Lord Clive's Letter to the Court of Directors, the 28th November, 1765.

Gentlemen,

1. I Embrace the opportunity of a ſhip being under diſpatch for Buſſora, to make known to you ſuch occurrences as have happened here ſince the ſailing of the Admiral Stevens on the 19th of the laſt month, in hopes that it may arrive in time for us to receive your commands by ſome of the latter ſhips of the year 1766.

2. The reſignation of Meſſrs. Senior, Burdett, and Grey, and ſuſpenſion of Mr. Leyceſter, has reduced us in committee to the neceſſity of deſiring the gentlemen of Madras to ſpare us Meſſrs. Ruſſell, Alderſey, Kelſall, and Floyer, who we propoſe ſhall give us their aſſiſtance in council until your pleaſure be known

3. To enter into particulars would take up too much time, and might be imprudent in a diſpatch of this nature: I ſhall therefore only repeat what I have already had the honour of repreſenting to you, that luxury, extravagance, and corruption, together with an independent way of thinking and acting, have ariſen to ſuch a height in this ſettlement, that the moſt vigorous meaſures are abſolutely neceſſary; and if you, Gentlemen, do not ſtrengthen my hands by approving the ſteps we have taken, particularly by confirming the Madraſs gentlemen in the poſts of which we have appointed them, and by entruſting me with ſufficient powers, I am convinced that the ſervice I may have rendered the Company, by my re-acceptance of this government will be in many reſpects of a very ſhort duration ſince every thing will infallibly revert to the old channel as ſoon as my back is turned: The meaſures hitherto propoſed and purſued for the attainment of that reformation which muſt take place, have been ſtrenuouſly ſupported by Meſſrs. Carnac, Verelſt, and Sykes. General Carnac intends reſigning the ſervice and accompanying me to Europe. Meſſrs. Verelſt and Sykes are highly deſerving of every encouragement that can be offered, to prevail upon them to continue in this country: Not one of the gentlemen next to the councilmen, even ſo low as Mr. Bolts, (Mr. Rumbold excepted) is worthy a ſeat at the board; many of them are deficient in abilities and all in principle; and

and as to the gentlemen of lower ſtanding, they are not only too young, but too ſtrongly tainted with the corruption of late times, to be ſo ſoon intruſted with power. The only meaſure therefore that can inſure ſtability to the plan of government and reformation which I have been labouring to eſtabliſh is, the appointment of the Madraſs gentlemen, and the limiting (I do not mean curtailing) the advantages of future governors; together with a power lodged ſomewhere to nominate the members who ſhall compoſe the ſelect-committee after my departure.

I can now, with the greateſt pleaſure inform you that the ſtate of the treaſury is ſuch, and the revenues of the country ſince the acquiſition of the Dewannee have flowed in ſo faſt, that we ſhall not through neceſſity, draw upon you for a rupee, although we have determined to ſend £. 300,000 this year to China: The returns for coral and ſmall bills drawn upon you for neceſſaries may amount to five or ſix lacks.

The refuſing to grant bills will undoubtedly throw large ſums into the hands of foreigners, particularly of the Dutch, as immoderate riches have been lately acquired: But I do not think we can be juſtified in wantonly drawing upon our employers to the amount of ſeveral hundred thouſand pounds, while we have more caſh than ſufficient to anſwer every purpoſe for the Company. However, as the acquiſition of fortunes will not be ſo rapid in future, ſome method may be fixed on, for the remitting of money by your ſervants, without ſo much benefit to our rivals.

In the courſe of the enſuing year, we ſhall certainly pay off upwards of thirty lacks of the Company's bond debt.

By this conveyance I ſhall only further add, that it is my reſolution to adhere firmly to the true intereſt of the Company in theſe parts, notwithſtanding the odium I undergo, in the purſuit of impartial and diſintereſted meaſures.

Permit me, gentlemen, to hope, that whilſt I am framing and carrying into execution ſuch regulations, in every department abroad, as I am convinced are moſt eſſentially and immediately requiſite, you will not be inſenſible to the danger of their being ſoon relaxed, and perhaps totally neglected, unleſs ſupported by the ſtricteſt orders from home.

If what I have done be approved, and, by the authority of the court of directors, rendered incapable of being ſubverted by my ſucceſſors, I ſhall return from the laborious accompliſhment of your wiſhes and expectations with the fulleſt ſatisfaction.

I have the honour to be with the greateſt reſpect,

Calcutta, 28th November 1765

Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient, and moſt humble ſervant.
CLIVE.

No. 101.

Company's letter to Bengal, 19th February 1766.

21. NO ſucceſs in carrying on the war againſt Sujah Dowla, to give his country to the King can juſtify the meaſure. Sujah Dowla's letter of the 3d January, offering to withdraw his protection from Coſſim Ally, to enter into friendſhip with you, and join your army in purſuing him, was the opportunity that ought to have been embraced for putting an end to the war; that paſſed, your fatal engagements with the King were left to operate with their utmoſt force; all ſight of the Company's intereſt was from that moment loſt, and one error has plunged you into many more. The reply you make to the above offer of Sujah Dowla, when you demand he ſhall put them to death, we cannot ſuppoſe ſeriouſly meant; for if the law of hoſpitality forbad his delivering them up, ſurely it forbad his murdering them.

22. In conſultation the 28th January, mention is made of ſome ſubſequent letters from Sujah Dowla to Major Fletcher, which are but ſlightly mentioned therein, and appear no where entered in your correſpondence; the only obſervation made on them is, that you were too far engaged with the King to recede. In the laſt letter, we in general terms condemned this treaty with the King, and flattered ourſelves you would have ſeen the folly thereof, or Meer Jaffier's death, or the arrival of Lord Clive, would have prevented the execution of it; but being diſappointed in our expectations, we now ſhall give you our ſentiments at large. The diſpoſſeſſing Sujah Dowla of his country, is, we apprehend, breaking down the ſtrongeſt barrier we could have had, againſt the Afghans, Morattas, and all the invaders of the empire, who were checked from penetrating into the eaſtern provinces, by a power ſo reſpectable as his was throughout Indoſtan. The raiſing the King on his ruins, renders this danger ſtill more ſtriking; becauſe all the northern powers are his natural enemies, being attached to the Vizier Gar-o-din Cawn; and you own yourſelves, in the reply to Mr. Gray's Minutes, in conſultation 20th February

1765, that though the title to the crown is conteſted, all parties ſeem to unite in oppoſing the claim of him you acknowledge King; and it is to be feared they will come down upon him before his ſtrength is confirmed; and thus you may have drawn the wars that have ſo long diſtracted the northern countries, to your own frontiers.

23. We have no opinion the King can poſſibly maintain himſelf without your utmoſt aſſiſtance, nor do we imagine Sujah Dowla is ſo reduced as not to make head again; and the reſult will be, we ſhall have a war to maintain ſix hundred miles from our own ſettlement, from the ſucceſs of which no poſſible advantage can be derived, and one defeat may be the total loſs of the province.

24. In your engagements with the King, we remark the ſtipulation for the charges of the war was unſettled, and we have much reaſon to apprehend the whole expence will be left on the Bengal government.

25. We now come to conſider the meaſures you took on the death of Jaffier Ally Cawn.—We could have wiſhed the ſucceſſion had been left undetermined until Lord Clive's arrival; but if it was abſolutely neceſſary to come to a ſudden determination, and that ſome one muſt be immediately acknowledged Soubah, it was conſiſtent with the faith we owed the father, to adopt the ſucceſſion he deſigned; and the inexperience of the young Soubah conſidered, you did right to appoint him a regent; but in the choice of Mahmud Reza Cawn we think you paſſed too ſlightly over the charge urged againſt him, of being ſo very deficient in accounting for the revenues of the province, of which he had been governor.

26. The appointing of independant duans appears highly improper to us; for it is intruding on the powers of the regent, weakening his government, and tending to anarchy; nor can we conceive that any Engliſhman is maſter enough of the forms of government, to undertake the dividing their departments, without introducing confuſion.

27. With reſpect to the treaty with Nazem-o-Dowla, it is proper here to inſert at length the 5th article, which runs in theſe words, "I do ratify and confirm to the Engliſh the privilege granted them by their Phirmaund, and ſeveral Huſbulhookums, of carrying on their trade by means of their own duſtuck, free from all duties, taxes, or impoſitions, in all parts of the country, excepting in the article of ſalt, on which a duty of 2½ per cent. is to be levied on the Rowana or Houghly market price." This fifth article is totally repugnant to our orders, contained in our general letter, by the Kent and Lapwing, dated the 1ſt June 1764; in which we not only expreſſed our abhorrence of an article in the treaty with Meer Jaffier, literally correſponding with the preſent 5th article, but in poſitive terms directed you, in concert with the Nabob, to form an equitable plan for carrying on the inland trade, and tranſmit the ſame to us, accompanied by ſuch explanations and remarks as might enable us to give our ſentiments and directions thereupon. We muſt remind you too, that in our ſaid general letter we expreſsly directed, That our orders in our letter of the 8th February preceding, which were to put a final and effectual end to the inland trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, and in all other articles produced and conſumed in the country, ſhould remain in force until an equitable and ſatisfactory plan could be formed and adopted. As therefore there is not the leaſt latitude given you for concluding any treaty whatſoever reſpecting this inland trade, we muſt and do conſider what you have done as an expreſs breach and violation of our orders, and as a determined reſolution to ſacrifice the intereſt of the Company, and the peace of the country, to lucrative and ſelfiſh views.

28. This unaccountable behaviour puts an end to all confidence in thoſe who made this treaty, and forces us to reſolve on meaſures for the ſupport of our authority, and the preſervation of the Company; we do therefore pronounce, that every ſervant concerned in that trade ſtands guilty of a breach of his covenants with us, and of our orders; and in conſequence of this reſolution we poſitively direct, that if that treaty is now ſubſiſting, you make a formal renunciation, by ſome ſolemn act to be entered on your records, of all right under the ſaid treaty, or otherwiſe, to trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco; and you tranſmit this renunciation of that part of the treaty in form to the Nabob in the Perſian language. Whatever government may be eſtabliſhed, or whatever unforeſeen circumſtances may ariſe, it is our reſolution to prohibit, and we do abſolutely forbid this trade of ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, and of all articles that are not for export and import, according to the ſpirit of the Phirmaund, which does not in the leaſt give any latitude whatſoever for carrying on ſuch an inland trade; and moreover, we ſhall deem every European concerned therein, directly or indirectly, guilty of a breach of his covenants, and direct that he be forthwith ſent to England, that we may proceed againſt him accordingly; and every native who ſhall avail himſelf of our protection to carry this trade on, without paying all the duties due to the government, equally with the reſt of the Nabob's ſubjects, ſhall forfeit that protection, and be baniſhed the ſettlement. And we direct that theſe reſolutions be ſignified publicly throughout the ſettlement.

29. With reſpect to the 11th article of the treaty, which ſettles the reſtitution for private loſſes, we gave you our ſentiments on that ſubject very fully in our letter of the 24th December; in which we remain confirmed, and our orders relative thereto ſtand in full force. We alſo continue in the ſame ſentiments upon the donation to the Navy, which we ſee is again taken up in the inſtructions to the reſident at the Durbar.

30. We

30. We repeat, that we have loſt all confidence in thoſe ſervants, which nothing can reſtore but a ſtrict obedience to our orders, and a more ſcrupulous attention to the Company's true intereſt; in the mean time, and until their conduct ſhall have reinſtated them in our good opinion, we muſt, and do rely ſolely on our preſident Lord Clive, and the ſelect Committee, whom we do hereby inveſt with all requiſite powers for ſecuring to the Company all ſums paid on account of reſtitution, till our orders are known. We further expect that they ſhall give us a clear inveſtigation of the motives that influenced the governor and council to engage in a treaty with the King, ſo repugnant to our true intereſt — That they ſhall examine into the reaſons of the Burdwan lands being let ſo low as thirty-two lacks, when, by the accounts tranſmitted to us, the collections exceeded fifty lacks.—We alſo rely on the Committee to put a ſtop to the ſhameful demand made on the Nabob for the Navy, and ſupported by the council, to their great diſhonour. And if any further corrupt or oppreſſive practices come to their knowledge, that they ſuſpend thoſe who ſhall appear guilty of them, and give us the fulleſt information thereof. And laſtly, we cannot avoid taking notice, that the late preſident and council neither acknowledged the receipt of the covenants relative to the receiving preſents from the country government, nor have they taken the leaſt notice of them. We hope there is no further meaning in this neglect than the deferring it till Lord Clive's arrival; yet when we conſider the total diſregard of our moſt ſolemn orders on the moſt important ſubjects, we know not where their diſobedience will ſtop.

31. We have received two letters from Mr. Spencer, the firſt dated the 5th of February 1765, the laſt the 14th March: copies of which we incloſe for your information; as they both urge his own merit in ſo ſtrong a manner, we find ourſelves obliged to give our ſentiments on his conduct in Bengal.

32. He came down to that ſettlement with the general good opinion of the world, and with our approbation of his conduct during his ſervices at Bombay, with this peculiar advantage, that he was free from all the embarraſſments and the party ſpirit that prevailed in Bengal, and had the plain path of the Company's intereſt before him —We ſhall therefore recapitulate the cenſure we have paſt on that part of the adminiſtration of our affairs in which he was concerned, and which we take for granted he approved, as no diſſent is entered by him.

33. Firſt, The very ſame letter that carried his appointment to the government, carried our moſt poſitive orders to put a total and effectual ſtop to the trade of ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco which we expreſſed to be the ſource of the war, and incompatible with the peace of the country, and the intereſt of the Company. Yet in the conſultation 17th October, wherein that order is taken into conſideration, he ſigns to a reſolution to carry on that trade of ſalt and beetle-nut, paying the Nabob on ſalt 2½ per cent. in direct breach of our orders; and in the treaty with the new Nabob, he ſtipulates for that right by an expreſs article of the treaty.

34. Although the treaty with Meer Jaffier Ally Cawn was entered into before Mr. Spencer's arrival, yet he gave his ſanction to every part of it, particularly that which ſtipulated reſtitution for loſſes, which we make no doubt he knew to be moſtly ſuſtained in an illicit trade; and, preferring the intereſt of the ſervants to the honour of the Company, countenanced the aggravating circumſtances which accompanied that ſhameful proſtitution of our authority, in riſing the demand, till by ſlinging in outſtanding debts, it was carried to the exorbitant ſum of fifty-three lacks; and Mr. Spencer, though no way intereſted therein, joined in the ungenerous proceedings, by which Meer Jaffier's conſent was extorted for the payment of theſe demands; and in the treaty with the new Nabob makes it an act of his own, by carefully ſtipulating for it therein; and to our great aſtoniſhment we ſee his name to conſultation 15th November 1764, wherein he engages the authority of the Company to obtain the ſum of twelve lacks and a half for the Navy, though, as far as appears to us, the demanding this ſum was a private act of his predeceſſor, unknown to him, but ſo ſtrongly adopted, that we ſee he never looſes ſight of it, but makes the recovery of it part of the inſtructions to the reſident at the Durbar, on the acceſſion of the new Subah.

35. In the adminiſtration of our revenues, he has ſo overlooked the accounts of the province of Burdwan, that though it appears in them the Rajah collects fifty-one lacks of rupees, yet he has approved the agreement with the Rajah for thirty-two lacks, which is even lower than the preceding year; nor has he taken any notice of the ſum of eighty-thouſand rupees, applied to the uſe of our ſervants, under the head of charges of reſidency.

36. In this letter of the 14th, March, he urges the general flouriſhing ſtate of the Company's affairs as a matter of merit to himſelf; in which we totally differ from him, as he will learn from our ſentiments in our letter of the 24th December, and the preſent, of which you will tranſmit him copies, as far as relates to the adminiſtration of our affairs during his being of our council in Bengal.

37. In the Packet by the Bute you tranſmitted to us a copy of the treaty with the Nabob Najim-o-Dowla, which is atteſted by your ſecretary, Mr. Majendy, to be a true copy, whereas it has neither date, or the names of our council, who ſigned the treaty, nor the Nabob's

Nabob's name, to it, which might have been very well added, as it appears by your conſultations of the 6th March laſt, that you then received it properly executed by the Nabob. You are to inform Mr. Majendie of his inattention, and let him know he muſt be more careful for the future.

No. 102.

Letter from Lord Clive, General Carnac, and Mr. Sykes, to the Governor and Council of Fort William, dated 30th April, 1766.

To William Brightwell Sumner, Eſq; and the Gentlemen of the Council at Fort William

Gentlemen,

YESTERDAY we held the Purneah, agreeably to the cuſtom of the country, and to thoſe ideas which we entertain of the Company's honour and intereſt. His Excellency the Nabob ſat in quality of Nazim, and the Right Honourable the preſident took his place, as collector of the revenues for his Majeſty.

We thought it by no means adviſeable to deviate, upon ſlight occaſions, from the eſtabliſhed forms and cuſtoms of this anniverſary, and therefore accepted, for ourſelves, and for you, the uſual preſent of a dreſs and elephant to each, which ſhall be forwarded by the firſt opportunity. This expence hath formerly been charged to the government, it muſt therefore, now, of courſe, be brought to the Company's account; but as the amount is inconſiderable, it was ſcarce worth while to introduce any innovation that might tend to leſſen their dignity in the eyes of the people.

The Zemindars, and other public officers have conſented to pay to the amount of rupees 5,20,000, as firſt fruits of the enſuing collections; of this ſum four lacks are now already received, and the remainder, we have reaſon to expect will be paid, in a few days, into the treaſury.

All poſſible diſpatch will be uſed in cloſing the balances of the preſent year, ſo as to complete, for the province of Bengal, a collection of 140 lacks:——A revenue that muſt far exceed expectation, when it is conſidered that ſix months were elapſed before we took charge of the collections, and that the more weighty and conſiderable balances were actually incurred before we received the inveſtiture of the Dewanny.

We propoſe tranſmitting to your board, an explicit account of the particulars of the preſent collection, and alſo of the ſtatement for the enſuing year, as ſoon as the ſame can be prepared, and the whole buſineſs duly completed; and we flatter ourſelves that nothing hath been done, nothing undone, which had not the public intereſt for its immediate object, and which, for that reaſon, will not meet with your approbation.

As to the increaſe of the revenue by the new ſtatement, although it cannot yet be aſcertained, yet there is great reaſon to believe it will not fall ſhort of ten lacks of rupees; which additional ſum may be collected without rigour or oppreſſion.

Before we conclude, we beg leave to mention, that Mr. Campbell attended here, by our direction, as mint maſter, to explain and conduct a ſcheme propoſed by the Select committee, for eſtabliſhing a gold currency, the reſult of which we hope to tranſmit in a few days to the board.

Mootajil, 30th April 1766.

We are. Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient humble Servants.

CLIVE,
JOHN CARNAC,
FRA. SYKES.

No. 103.

Extract from the Trial of Ramchurn, 1761.

PARTICULARS of the ſums on which Roydulub received his Commiſſion.

In Three Payments.

To the Company — — — — — — — —	46,83,595	11	7
Army and Navy — — — — — — — —	23,41,797	8	3
Inhabitants — — — — — — — — —	36,06,368	0	6
	106,31,761	4	4
Deduct Army and Navy, on which no commiſſion was drawn —	23,41,797	8	3
	82,89,963	12	1
	5		
	4,14,498	1	5
Committee 1,150,000—5 per Cent. — — — — —	57,500	0	0
A Preſent from Col. Clive, being 5 per Cent. upon 25 Lacks	1,25,000	0	0
	5,96,998	0	0

An Account of Money agreeable to the Receipts of Rajah Dolevaram.

Received Account Commiſſion; viz.

5 Sun Siccas — — — — — —	7400
Muxadavad Sonauts — — — — —	94991
Dacca Sonauts — — — — — —	10513
Patna Sonauts — — — — — —	148770
Arcot Good — — — — — —	41330
Patna Leſs Rupees — — — — —	54903
Arcots Leſs — — — — — —	85144½
Sonauts of Sorts Leſs — — — —	153178
Rupees	596,229½

N. B. The above ſums are given to Rajah Dolevaram by Coja Petruſe, the bags containing, ſome 1000, and ſome two thouſand; the ſaid bags were ſealed with a Mohur of Nabob Surozut Dowlah; and regularly the above ſums were received by Dolevaram; but thoſe bags that were leſs to the Amount of 767½ Rupees, which was likewiſe received by him.

Juſt Publiſhed by T. EVANS.

I. THE PRESENT STATE of the ENGLISH EAST-INDIA COMPANY's AFFAIRS, comprehending the Accounts delivered by the Court of Directors to the Treaſury, which were laid before the COMMITTEE of SECRECY, appointed by the HOUSE of COMMONS, aſſembled at Weſtminſter, in the Sixth Seſſion of the Thirteenth Parliament of GREAT-BRITAIN, to enquire into EAST-INDIA AFFAIRS; drawn up by Mr. HOOLE, Auditor of India Accounts, and Others; together with the Plans propoſed by the different Directors for the Re-eſtabliſhment of the Company's Affairs, and ſeveral other Accounts equally Important and Intereſting; drawn up for the Uſe of the Directors, &c. To there Accounts is prefixed, an Addreſs to the Public. Price 3s. 6d. Royal Paper 5s.

II. REPORT from the COMMITTEE of PROPRIETORS, appointed on the 1ſt of December, 1772; by the General COURT of the UNITED EAST-INDIA COMPANY, to enquire into the preſent State and Condition of the Company's Affairs. Price 1s.

III. A Letter to the above Committee of Twenty-Five Proprietors of India Stock, by a Member of the Committee. 6d.

IV. The GENUINE MINUTES of the SELECT COMMITTEE appointed by the HOUSE of COMMONS, aſſembled at Weſtminſter, in the Fifth Seſſion of the Thirteenth Parliament of Great-Britain, to enquire into EAST-INDIA AFFAIRS. Containing the moſt authentic, hiſtorical account of the various Revolutions, and other extraordinary Events, that have happened in India, from the Commencement of Lord CLIVE's Government, to the lateſt Advices received by the Honourable ENGLISH EAST-INDIA COMPANY. Price 3s. 6d. ſewed.

V. The GENUINE REPORT of the SELECT COMMITTEE, made to the HOUSE of COMMONS. 1s.

VI. Firſt Report from the Committee of Secrecy appointed by the HOUSE of COMMONS, to enquire into the State of the EAST-INDIA COMPANY. 2s.

VII. Second, ditto. 4s. 6d.

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SECOND

REPORT

FROM THE

COMMITTEE

APPOINTED BY THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ASSEMBLED AT WESTMINSTER IN THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN,

TO ENQUIRE INTO

THE NATURE, STATE, AND CONDITION

OF THE

EAST INDIA COMPANY,

AND OF THE

BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST INDIES.

LONDON:

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MDCC LXXIII.

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SECOND

REPORT

FROM THE

COMMITTEE,

APPOINTED BY THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS, &c.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition, of the Eaſt India Company, and of the Britiſh Affairs in the Eaſt Indies,

NOT having been able, for want of time before the receſs, to inſert in their laſt report the progreſs they had made in their enquiries reſpecting the trade in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, they have been ſince employed in arranging the ſeveral matters they had collected upon that head, in the manner that appeared to them moſt conducive to the information of the houſe.

And your Committee finding that the houſe is appriſed (by the fourth report of the Committee of ſecrecy, p. 16) of the general ſtate of duties upon ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, according to the evidence of Mahomed Reza Cawn, and other circumſtances therein recited, they have only to add upon that ſubject, that they find an alteration was attempted to be made upon the ancient eſtabliſhment of duties, by the regulations which were ſettled between Coſſim Ally Cawn and Mr. Vanſittart at Mongheer; whereby it was ſtipulated, that the Company's ſervants ſhould in time to come pay nine per cent. on the Rowanna price of ſalt: But this treaty having been rejected by the council, as having been concluded without ſufficient authority on the part of Mr. Vanſittart; and alſo as ſubjecting the Engliſh and their ſervants, upon all diſputes, to the juriſdiction of the Nabob's Officers; the old regulations as to duties were continued, and the Engliſh, by treaty made with Myr Jaffier, were placed upon a footing with the moſt favoured among the natives; viz. to pay the duties of 2½ per cent. on ſalt.

And your Committee alſo obſerved, from the appendix in the abovementioned report of the Committee of ſecrecy, No. 44, that the houſe is in poſſeſſion of the 21ſt paragraph of general letter from the court of directors to the governor and council of Bengal, dated the 8th of February 1764; wherein the court of directors order, "that from the receipt of "the ſaid letter a final and effectual end be forthwith put to the inland trade in ſalt, beetle "nut, and tobacco, and in all other articles whatſoever produced and conſumed in the "country; and that all European and other agents or gomaſtahs, who have been con-

"cerned

" cerned in ſuch trade, be immediately ordered down to Calcutta, and not ſuffered to return " or be replaced as ſuch by any other perſon ;" and the above is the firſt expreſs order which your Committee have diſcovered upon the records of the Company againſt this trade, though your Committee find, from the evidence of Mr. Batſon, that the Engliſh began to trade in ſalt about the end of the year 1757, and that it ſoon became general.

And it alſo appears by the evidence of Mr. Mac Gwire, and by a letter from Governor Vanſittart to Mr. Mac Gwire of 30th December 1761, printed in the appendix to the former report, No. 9, that they had large concerns in ſalt on their joint account, which was ſold at Patna in the year 1761.

Your Committee further find, that the court of directors in their general letter of the 22d of February 1764, paragraph 35, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 1, gave a general and poſitive order againſt every kind of monopoly in trade.

And your Committee think proper to remark, that the prohibition of the trade of the Company's ſervants in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, was recommended to the court of directors, in a letter from Lord Clive, dated 27th April 1764, and entered on the proceedings of the general court, 2d May 1764, extract of which is annexed, No. 2.

The next circumſtance your Committee think neceſſary to lay before the houſe, is the reſolution of the general court of the 18th of May 1764 ; and the paragraph of the general letter of the 1ſt of June 1764, wrote in purſuance of that reſolution, and your Committee find them conceived in the following terms :

RESOLUTION.

" It is recommended to the court of directors to re-conſider the orders ſent to Bengal, " relative to the trade of the Company's ſervants in the articles of ſalt, beetle nut, and " tobacco ; and that they do give ſuch directions for regulating the ſame, agreeable to " the intereſts of the Company and the Subah, as to them may appear moſt prudent, " either by ſettling here at home the reſtrictions under which this trade ought to be " carried on, or by referring it to the governor and council of Fort William to regulate " this important point in ſuch a manner as may prevent all future diſputes betwixt the " Subah and the Company."

The 57th paragraph of the general letter, dated 1ſt June 1764 (wrote in purſuance of the above reſolution.)

" You are hereby ordered and directed (viz. the governor and council) to conſult with the " Nabob as to the manner of carrying on the inland trade in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, " and other articles produced and conſumed in the country, which may be moſt conducive " to his ſatisfaction and advantage, the intereſt of the Company, and likewiſe of the Com- " pany's ſervants."

N. B. The houſe is in poſſeſſion of the other paragraphs of the ſaid letter, relative to the inland trade, in the abovementioned appendix of the report from the Committee of ſecrecy, No. 24.

Having thus ſtated the orders of the court of directors, your Committee think proper to obſerve, that the ſalt ſociety, which afterwards took place, appears to have been originally propoſed at ſea by Lord Clive, during his paſſage to India ; and the evidence upon which your Committee ground this fact is in a letter from Lord Clive to the court of directors, dated 1ſt of February 1766 ; extract of which is in the appendix, No. 3.

And it appears to your Committee, from the evidence of ſeveral witneſſes here following, that in the beginning of June, being a few days after the arrival of Mr. Verelſt from Chittagong, and about the time of the third meeting of the ſelect Committee, a private partnerſhip was formed, in the names of Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, Mr. Verelſt, and Mr. Sykes, for purchaſing large quantities of ſalt, then in the hands of private merchants. Your Committee are prevented ſtating the extent of this tranſaction ſo fully as they might otherwiſe have done, by Mr. Verelſt declining to anſwer a queſtion put to him upon that ſubject ; becauſe as he alledged, the court of directors had threatened him with a proſecution upon ſalt concerns ; but your Committee having examined Mr. Verelſt to ſuch other circumſtances as he thought he could anſwer without prejudice to himſelf, he informed your Committee that on his return from Chittagong to Calcutta, on the 29th of May 1765, finding there was a neceſſity for his giving up his chiefſhip, and reſiding at Calcutta, he made ſome purchaſes of ſalt of the produce of ſome former years from ſeveral European gentlemen, and ſome few Armenian and black merchants : That at the time he was making theſe purchaſes on his own account,

count, Lord Clive mentioned to him a deſire of forming ſome proviſion for the gentlemen he had brought out with him, and aſked the witneſs's opinion in what manner it could be done; that he told his Lordſhip he knew of no advantage but what reſulted from trade; that he mentioned the purchaſes he had made, adding he could extend them, if his Lordſhip thought proper; that the purchaſes were accordingly extended with his Lordſhip's aſſent, Mr. Sumner and Mr. Sykes taking a part of the concern; that this partnerſhip was formed about the beginning of June following, in the names of Lord Clive, Meſſieurs Sumner, Sykes, and Verelſt, each one quarter part; and all the purchaſes on account of the partnerſhip were made in the month of June; and that Lord Clive advanced his proportion, but was not concerned on his own account; that the witneſs always conſidered the concern to be merely on the account of the three gentlemen his Lordſhip brought out with him; that the witneſs choſe it ſhould ſtand in his Lordſhip's name, preferring to have the accounts in the name of one perſon, rather than three or four; and being aſked, Whether thoſe gentlemen received the advantage of it? he ſaid, He himſelf ſaw the advantages divided amongſt them; that he believes ſalt purchaſed before the eſtabliſhment of the Society of Trade, was not liable to any duty, except the 2½ per Cent. to the country government, and that it paid none to the Company: That he has no doubt but the Nabob received his duties on the whole of the ſaid partnerſhip ſalt; that the greateſt quantity was purchaſed of Meſſrs. Marriott, Gallopine, Governor Spencer, Meſſrs. Playdell, the Attornies of Mr. Haſtings, Mr. John Johnſtone and Mr. Amyatt; that the largeſt quantity was purchaſed of Mr. Johnſtone. Being aſked, With whom Mr. Johnſtone made the bargain for the ſalt he ſold on this occaſion? he ſaid, That Mr. Johnſtone ſold it to the witneſs's Banyan, who offered the witneſs, Mr. Verelſt, as a ſecurity for the payment of the money; that he ſuppoſed Mr. Johnſtone was perfectly ſatisfied with his bargain, for he gave a receipt in full for principal and intereſt, and that he never complained of having been oppreſſed in any degree upon that occaſion; that he believes Mr. Johnſtone's ſalt balances at Burdwan were ſettled entirely to his ſatisfaction; that Mr. Johnſtone, and all other perſons concerned in the ſalt trade, were at liberty to ſell their ſalt to whom they pleaſed; that there never was any reſtraint, nor did he ever hear the leaſt murmur about any; that notwithſtanding the inſtitution of the Society of Trade, every individual was allowed to diſpoſe of the ſalt on hand to whom he pleaſed; that the Society had no power to prevent it, nor did they ever attempt it; that if thoſe perſons who ſold their ſalt at that time had kept it longer, the profits to them would have been the ſame as they were to the partnerſhip. Being aſked, Whether any orders of the Court of Directors were in force at the time of forming the above partnerſhip, forbidding their ſervants to trade in ſalt? he ſaid, That, to the beſt of his remembrance, there were, but that he conſidered them as made with a view to the future, and not extending to the ſalt already made. And being aſked, Whether it was known at the time, to the different partners, that the monopoly in the ſalt trade, which was afterwards eſtabliſhed, would be formed? he anſwered, That he believed not, for he was far from conſidering it as a thing determined: And being further aſked, If they had had any converſation on the ſubject, or if the matter had been in contemplation? he ſaid, He could not recollect; that there might have been ſome curſory remarks made relative to that ſubject, but it never biaſſed him in the purchaſes he made. And being aſked, Whether he thought the partnerſhip was a breach of the orders of the 8th of February and the 1ſt of June 1764, which were read to him? he ſaid, That he did not, becauſe he conſidered the orders of the Company to allude only to new engagements for ſalt to be made, and not to affect the property of individuals, in reſpect to any ſalt they might have on their hands; that he did not conſider the ſervants to be prohibited from extending their purchaſes to any amount for ſalt already manufactured. And being further aſked, Whether he knew of any orders of the Company which made a diſtinction between ſalt already manufactured, or to be afterwards manufactured? he anſwered, No. Being aſked, whether Mr. Tom Lewis was one of the agents for the partnerſhip? he ſaid, No; that he tranſacted ſome buſineſs for Mr. Sykes in the ſalt concerns, and that he (Mr. Verelſt) acknowledged the book publiſhed in his name, in the year 1772, to be his writing, and that it contains a full account of the affairs relating to Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Sumner being examined upon the ſubject of the abovementioned partnerſhip, informed your Committee, that, ſome time in the month of June 1765, Mr. Verelſt mentioned to him his having made ſome purchaſes of old ſalt upon his own account, and at the ſame time propoſed his taking a ſhare therein, together with Lord Clive and Mr. Sykes, which the witneſs agreed to; that each of them had a quarter part, and that Mr. Verelſt undertook the management of the concern, and the keeping of the accounts; that the witneſs ſold his quarter to Mr. Verelſt, about the middle of September, for a certain profit; that he had at this time advanced his whole ſhare of the money required for the purchaſe, amounting to 12,500l.—that the amount of the agreement was to be paid him on the 12th of April—that the net amount of the profits, deducting for deficiencies in contract and calculating intereſt of money, at the rate of 10 per Cent. (which is the common intereſt of the country) from the time he advanced it, amounted to 4,485l. which is preciſely 36 per Cent. net profit, upon the 12,500l. for nine months; that Mr. Verelſt having had the charge of

the concern and keeping the accounts, and the witneſs having ſold his ſhare to him, he can give no particular account as to the preciſe quantity purchaſed, or the ultimate diſpoſition thereof; but that he judged the quantity of ſalt purchaſed was about 460,000 maunds.—Being aſked, What proportion he thought this bore to the ready made ſalt in the country? he ſaid, He could only judge from the quantity produced the two following years, which, to the beſt of his recollection, was 2,800,000 maunds per annum, on an average.—Being aſked, Whether a profit of 36 per Cent. in the ſpace of nine months (after deducting ten per Cent. on the money advanced) was an unuſual or extraordinary profit upon that trade in the hands of an European? he ſaid, That upon any other article he ſhould have conſidered it as an high profit, but upon the article of ſalt by no means ſo: And being aſked, Whether this concern in ſalt was more advantageous than the concern held under the Society of Trade? he ſaid, The ultimate concluſion of the Society's concern he was ignorant of; but with reſpect to the ſhare he held himſelf, he ſold his ſhare in the firſt year's trade of the Society, after holding it about 14 months, for a profit of 54⅓ per Cent. excluſive of intereſt upon a capital of 20,000l. That his ſecond year's concern ſold for a profit of 41l. per Cent. alſo, excluſive of intereſt upon a capital of 14,500l. The firſt year's concern was ſold the 28th of October 1766, to Huſramaul and Co. black merchants, they running all riſks of loſs and bad debts; and the ſecond concern was ſold to Mr. Chevalier, the 8th of November 1766, two months after the eſtabliſhment of the ſecond year, he likewiſe running all riſks. And being further aſked, Whether the Proprietors, upon advancing their reſpective ſhares, received intereſt upon their monies, beſides their profits in the trade? he anſwered, Yes. Being aſked, Whether in his apprehenſion the partnerſhip was contrary to the Company's orders? he ſaid, He did not conſider it ſo; if he had, he ſhould not have entered into it; that he conſidered the Company's orders of the 8th February and 1ſt June 1764, as confined to new contracts and engagements, and no way relating to the old ſalt then upon hand, which every perſon was at liberty to diſpoſe of as he thought proper. And being aſked, Whether, at the time of the commencement of the partnerſhip, it was determined to lay a duty of 35 per Cent. on future ſalt; and whether any other circumſtance, that muſt neceſſarily raiſe the price of ſalt, was in contemplation at that time? he ſaid, That no certain duty was at that time determined, nor was it determined whether the Nabob or Company were to ſhare in the ſalt trade as propietors, or to receive a certain fixed duty—that the Company had committed the regulations to the Select Committee, in a letter, under date the 1ſt June 1764, which letter arrived in Bengal on the 24th January 1765, and lay open to the whole ſettlement—that from that letter it appeared that the Company expected to be conſidered in the advantages of the ſalt trade, and that the Nabob was to be fully ſatisfied on his part—that every body muſt have known that theſe two objects could not have been accompliſhed but by an advance of duty, which muſt be conſiderably more than the then eſtabliſhed rate of duty, and conſequently that the price of ſalt muſt conſiderably riſe in Calcutta. Being aſked, Whether he imagined the partnerſhip ſalt was diſpoſed of and conſumed, before the ſalt of the Society could come into circulation? he ſaid, He apprehended it might have been diſpoſed of, but could not ſay whether it was or not: And being aſked, Whether Lord Clive entered into this concern on his own account, or on account of the three gentlemen mentioned by Mr. Verelſt? he ſaid, That Lord Clive's name ſtood in the partnerſhip; but that the witneſs always underſtood it was upon the account of thoſe three gentlemen, and that the profits were to be divided amongſt them.

Your Committee then examined Francis Sykes, Eſquire, a Member of the Houſe; who being aſked, Whether he remembered any partnerſhip between himſelf, Lord Clive, Mr. Sumner, and Mr. Verelſt? ſaid, That a quantity of ſalt was purchaſed by them, the time he could not recollect, but he believed it might be about two months after their arrival; that the ſaid ſalt was bought of many black people, and many Engliſh gentlemen; Mr. John Johnſtone, Mr. Haſtings's Attornies, and others; that they bought it on their own private accounts, and that it was ſalt manufactured the year before their arrival. Being aſked, Why they dealt themſelves in ſalt, before they had proceeded to regulate the trade? he ſaid, He did not know that they did, previous to their entering on the ſubject, or to the intention being publicly known; that this partnerſhip ſalt was not ſold to the Society, but to the country people; that the gentlemen concerned were drawn upon for money agreeably to their ſhares; that the witneſs's proportion was about a lack of rupees; that the advantages of the ſaid partnerſhip, to thoſe who continued their concern, reckoning loſs or intereſt and balances, might be 30 per Cent. he ſaid, That he did not recollect who made the propoſal to Lord Clive relating to this partnerſhip, but that his Lordſhip was not concerned in it from the beginning; that it was begun by Mr. Verelſt; that the witneſs afterwards accepted a concern; and that ſome time after Lord Clive and Mr. Sumner did the ſame. And being aſked, Whether Lord Clive entered into this partnerſhip upon his own account, or for the benefit of other perſons? he ſaid, He remembered very well that at the time Lord Clive took the concern, he declared he would not benefit himſelf ſix-pence by it; that he intended the profits which might ariſe from it for Mr. Strachey, Mr. Maſkelyne, and Mr. Ingham the ſurgeon, the three gentlemen who had accompanied him to India.

And

And your Committee obſerving, that the firſt orders of the ſelect Committee at Bengal for the recall of the free merchants, as ſtated in their former report, happened about three weeks before the time when the partnerſhip was formed; they examined Francis Sykes, Eſquire, to that point, who being aſked, What orders of the government and council, for recalling free merchants reſiding up the country, were alluded to in the minute of the ſelect Committee of the 11th May 1765 (which minute was read) and is in the Appendix of the former report of your Committee, No. 84? he ſaid, he did not recollect, but did imagine there were grounds for orders of that kind. And being further aſked, if there were any complaints from free merchants, made to the ſelect Committee? he ſaid, there was a general complaint of the miſconduct of free merchants reſiding in the interior part of the country, with reſpect to the country government; but at this diſtance of time he could not point out any one. And being aſked, whether he thought a month a ſufficient time for any man up the country to adjuſt his affairs for his departure? he anſwered, No — but he underſtood a much longer time was allowed to the free merchants; that the time limited firſt by the ſelect Committee, for the recall of the free merchants, extended to all of them, except upon repreſentation of their particular ſituation, that their affairs could not be ſettled within the time ſpecified; in which caſes, upon their repreſentations, ſome deviations were permitted.

And your Committee thinking this a proper occaſion to lay before the houſe the other circumſtances alluded to in their former report, relative to the recall of free merchants, they have inſerted in their Appendix, No. 4 to 31, ſeveral extracts from the Company's records, beginning the 22d February 1763, which is the earlieſt period your Committee have thought it neceſſary to refer to, in order to ſhew the different repreſentations that were made, and the different regulations and orders that enſued, upon this ſubject, and likewiſe the remiſſion of ſuch orders and regulations in particular inſtances.

And your Committee find, that the letter of the 8th of February 1764, referred to in a former part of this report, arrived in Bengal the 13th of July 1764; that conſultations were had on the ſaid letter, on the 21ſt of the ſaid month; and further, that the Governor and Council, on the 17th of October following, in conſequence of the orders contained in the ſaid letter, and likewiſe in conſequence of repreſentations from the Nabob, reſolved, that the inland trade ſhould in general be prohibited, with ſuch exceptions, and qualifications as will appear in an extract from the conſultations in the ſecret department of that date, and annexed in the Appendix, No. 32.

And your Committee find, that the general letter from the court of Directors, of the 1ſt of June 1764, arrived in Bengal on the 24th of January 1765; and that on the 25th the Governor and Council agreed to defer proceeding upon the orders therein contained, relating to the inland trade, as Lord Clive and the other gentlemen might be ſoon expected to arrive.

And it appears to your Committee, that on the 10th of Auguſt 1765, Mr. Sumner and Mr. Verelſt, conſtituting a ſelect Committee, took into conſideration the ſubject of the inland trade, in the articles of ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, and reſolved on a plan for conducting the ſame; and for the full information of the houſe upon that plan, your Committee have inſerted in their appendix the neceſſary extracts from the proceedings of the ſelect Committee of that date, No. 33.

And your Committee find, by an extract from the conſultation hereunto annexed, No. 34, that, on the 12th of Auguſt, Mr. Sumner, the preſiding member, laid before the Council the above mentioned plan, as a ground work for carrying on the trade in future: That a Committee, conſiſting of Meſſrs. Sumner, Verelſt, Leyceſter, and Gray, were then appointed for conducting the ſaid plan; and that the chiefs of the ſeveral ſubordinate factories were ordered to pay due regard to ſuch inſtructions as they might receive from time to time from the ſaid Committee; and extracts of the circular letter ſent to the ſubordinate factories are inſerted in the Appendix, No. 35.

And your Committee further find, from the conſultation of the 18th of September 1765, that a letter from the Committee of trade, dated the 11th of September, was laid before the Council; requeſting that a deed might be granted from Lord Clive and the Council to the ſaid Committee of trade, for ſecuring to the Society the free and ſole purchaſe of the articles of ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, from the 1ſt of September 1765, to the 31ſt of Auguſt 1766; and it appears to your Committee, that ſuch a deed was afterwards executed, the particular evidence reſpecting which is inſerted in the ſubſequent part of this report.

And your Committee find, that on the 18th of September 1765, the ſelect Committee reſumed the conſideration of the plan for carrying on the inland trade, which they completed on that day; that the ſaid proceedings were laid before the Council, on the 25th of September, and tranſmitted to the Committee of trade, with inſtructions to proceed agreeably thereto; and a copy of the proceedings of the ſelect Committee of the 18th of September, together with an abſtract from the conſultation of the 25th of September, are inſerted in the Appendix, No. 36 and 37.

And it appears, that the ſelect Committee, in the 32d and 33d paragraphs of their letter of the 30th of September, 1765, and Lord Clive, in the 17th and 18th paragraphs of his letter the ſame date (copies of which letters are in the Appendix of your Committee's former report)

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gave to the Company a general information of their proceedings relative to this plan, and their reaſons for inſtituting the ſame.

And your Committee find, that in conſequence of an application from the Committee of trade, copy of which is annexed, No. 38, the ſelect Committee, on the 29th of October 1765, conſented to the appointment of European Agents to conduct the buſineſs of the Society in different parts of the country; and copies of their proceedings of that date, and their letter to the Committee of trade, of the 1ſt of November, are annexed, No. 39 and 40.

And it appears, by a letter from the Committee of trade to the ſelect Committee, dated the 1ſt of November 1765, copy whereof is annexed, No. 41, that 9 perſons were then appointed Agents to the Society; and that on the 5th of November, the ſelect Committee, in their anſwer to the Committee of trade, copy whereof is annexed, No. 42, made ſeveral reſtrictions reſpecting the ſaid Agents.

And it appears, by a letter from the Committee of trade to the ſelect Committee, dated the 8th of January 1766, that they propoſed the Agents of the Society ſhould be permitted, notwithſtanding the original regulations before referred to in the Appendix, under which they were employed to diſpoſe of the ſalt then on hand belonging to private traders; to which the ſelect Committee on the 9th of January conſented; and copies of the ſaid letter of the proceedings of the ſelect Committee thereupon, and their anſwer thereto, are annexed, No. 43, 44, and 45.—And it appears, by the letter of the ſelect Committee of the 31ſt of January 1766, paragraphs 8, 9, 10 and 11 — copy of which letter is annexed No. 46 — that they informed the court of Directors of the deviation they had made from their general order for recalling free merchants.

And your Committee have annexed in the Appendix, No. 47, 48, 49 and 50, extracts of ſuch letters from the court of Directors, upon the ſubject of the inland trade, as were received in Bengal after the general letter of the 1ſt of June 1764, and before the eſtabliſhment of the ſecond plan for conducting the ſalt trade; which was propoſed by Lord Clive to the ſelect Committee on the 3d of September 1766.

Your Committee do not find any further remarkable tranſactions reſpecting this trade, which are not already before the houſe, till the 15th of Auguſt 1766, when certain merchants were brought before the ſelect Committee, and required to refund the ſurplus profit upon their ſales, being 41,535 rupees, as an exceſs of the price they took beyond what the ſelect Committee thought they had a right to take; copies of the proceedings of the ſelect Committee of that date are annexed in the Appendix, No. 51.

And the plan which was propoſed by Lord Clive, for carrying on the ſalt ſociety a ſecond year, notwithſtanding the orders from the court of Directors of the 19th of February 1766, together with his Lordſhip's reaſons for ſuch propoſal, are entered in the ſelect Committee proceedings of the 3d September 1766, and copy thereof is annexed in the Appendix, No. 52.

And it appears by the conſultations of the 8th of September, extract of which is annexed in Appendix, No. 53, that the abovementioned proceedings were laid before the Council, the new regulations approved, and a Committee of trade were appointed to carry the plan of the ſalt trade into execution.

And your Committee find, that Lord Clive, in the 1ſt and 2d paragraphs of his letter to the court of Directors, dated 6th September 1766, and the ſelect Committee, in the 25th paragraph of their letter of the 8th of the ſame month, and alſo in the 4th and 5th paragraphs of the letter of the 5th of December 1766; copies of which are annexed, No. 54, 55 and 56, communicated to the court of Directors the alterations which they had made in the plan for carrying on the ſalt trade, together with their arguments on the ſubject.

And your Committee find, that the Court of Directors, by their letter to the Select Committee, dated 17th of May 1766, paragraphs 4 and 31 to 39 incluſive, in anſwer to the Bengal diſpatch of 30th of September 1765, and which arrived at Bengal the 8th of December 1766, diſapproved of the plan which had been tranſmitted in the ſaid letter of the 30th of September 1765, for trading in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, and accordingly confirmed their former orders for its intire abolition; declaring their opinion, that all who had been concerned in this trade were guilty of a breach of covenants; and in their letter to Lord Clive of the ſame date, paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9 and 11, they repeat the like prohibition.—And your Committee have added to their appendix, No. 57, extract of a letter from Lord Clive to the Select Committee at Bengal, dated the 16th January 1767, relative to the abolition of the ſalt trade—and it appears, that on the ſame day the Select Committee reſolved, that the Society of Trade ſhould be aboliſhed and the inland trade totally relinquiſhed on the 1ſt day of September following; and it further appears, that in their letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 24th of January 1767, extract of which is in the appendix, No. 58, ſent by the Britannia, in which ſhip Lord Clive embarked for Europe, they informed them of the abovementioned reſolution.

And it further appears, that on the 15th of February 1767, the Select Committee laid before the council their reſolution for aboliſhing the Society of Trade, and that the council then ordered publication to be made of the ſame.

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But your Committee think proper to ſtate, that the Society was not in fact diſſolved till the 14th of September 1768, as will appear by the evidence of Doctor Semple in the ſubſequent part of this report, and likewiſe by a public advertiſement, proved to have been compared with the original by Mr. Whittall.

Your Committee alſo find, that Lord Clive, after his arrival in England, in a letter, dated the 28th of Auguſt 1767, uſed many arguments with the Court of Directors to induce them to continue the benefit of the ſalt trade to their ſervants, as will more fully appear by the letter in the appendix, No. 59.

And your Committee further find, That Lord Clive, in another letter, dated Bath, the 14th November 1767, in the appendix, No. 60, remonſtrated with the Court of Directors againſt the opening of the ſalt trade, and taking only a duty of 10 rupees per hundred maunds: And your Committee find, that the Court of Directors, in their general letter to Bengal, dated the 20th November, 1767, paragraphs 88 to 118, copies whereof are hereunto annexed, No. 61, ordered, that the duty on ſalt ſhould be ſo fixed as to produce a revenue of 100,000l. at leaſt, and not to exceed 120,000. and in conſideration of having confined the trade of their ſervants to articles of import and export, they ordered a commiſſion of 2½ per cent. of the nett territorial revenues to be diſtributed amongſt their principal ſervants, in the proportions therein named.

And your Committee find, That after all the abovementioned prohibitions of the inland trade, in ſalt, beetle-nut and tobacco, the Court of directors, on the 15th September 1769, as appears by the 27th paragraph of the inſtructions to the ſupervifors, copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 62. laid open the ſaid trade to all perſons, as well Europeans as natives: but your Committee do not find, when the ſaid Court of directors laid the inland trade open to ſuch of their ſervants as were not prohibited from trading by the general ſubſiſting regulations, that they gave any directions for withholding the proportion of the 2½ per cent. on the territorial revenues allowed to ſuch ſervants, notwithſtanding it has been originally given to them in conſideration of their being confined to imports and exports.

In order to elucidate theſe tranſactions, your Committee examined ſeveral witneſſes; and that they might not break the periodical ſucceſſion of facts as contained in the Company's records recited above, they have reſerved the evidence to lay before the Houſe together: And firſt,

Mr. Sumner was called upon to ſtate to your Committee the grounds upon which the Society of Trade was eſtabliſhed; and it appearing by Mr. Sumner's anſwer, that he had very maturely conſidered this ſubject, and that he had thought proper to enter into a full detail thereupon, Your Committee think it adviſeable to give his evidence verbatim, ſo far as it relates to that queſtion.

The ſubject on which I am now to reply, of all others, opens the wideſt field for miſrepreſentation, becauſe it was the leaſt underſtood by the Court of Directors, and has proved the ſevereſt check to the intereſted views of individuals: the joint trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco having been held forth to the world in the odious light of an oppreſſive monopoly, it has wrought upon the feelings of a generous people as a moſt intolerable grievance; ſupported however by a conſciouſneſs that the Select Committee at Bengal perfectly underſtood, and cloſely purſued, the public good, when they inſtituted the ſociety; I ſhall without fear of reproach, as one of the members of that Committee, enter into an explanation of the motives which governed their conduct: It will be neceſſary to recall your ideas to the ſtate of the inland trade in former times; the article of ſalt in particular, prior to 1756, was farmed at from 25 to 35000 per annum; the revolution in 1756 extended the views of the Company's ſervants to advantages beyond what they had hitherto derived from a trade confined to imports and exports, and from that period they began to participate in the benefit of an inland commerce, and ſome even in thoſe early days of our influence, entertained hopes of a right, founded upon our Phirmaunds, to an exemption of duties upon ſalt: It was not, however, till after Meer Coſſim's acceſſion in 1760, that ſuch right was publickly avowed; then it was that the Company acquired poſſeſſion of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, on which, and the Company's Calcutta Lands, near two thirds of the whole quantities of ſalt for the conſumption of Bengal is manufactured: by poſſeſſing theſe countries the Engliſh conſidered themſelves now the proprietors, and became the principal original dealers in that article; ſome were content with the profit ariſing from ſalt in Calcutta, whilſt others launched out farther to ſeek the profits through the country: the magnitude of this branch of trade, and the manner in which it was now carried on, became the ſubject of conteſt and diſpute between Meer Coſſim, and our government, the particulars of which having been laid before this Committee, not to treſpaſs on their time, I beg leave to refer to.

On Meer Jaffier's re-inſtatement to the government, in 1763, our influence with reſpect to the manufacture of ſalt, by the poſſeſſion of theſe countries, continued in full force; and our uncontеſted right to trade in ſalt, on paying 2½ per cent. duty, was firſt eſtabliſhed, the natives being ſtill ſubject to a duty of 7 per cent.: how far this diſtinction was proper, I can't pretend to determine; but certain it is, that the proprietors of the India Stock, as well as the Directors, conſidered it as a grant too partial in itſelf, and which they apprehend might involve us in freſh diſputes with the country government. Lord Clive being ap-

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pointed in 1764 to take the charge of the Company's affairs in Bengal, the inland trade was then conſidered, by, I believe, almoſt every proprietor, as one of the great ſources of contention with the country government; it therefore became the ſubject of ſerious debate at repeated general courts; by ſome it was recommended to reſtrain the ſervants, as formerly, to the uſual articles of import and export; others foreſaw the difficulties of inducing men, under the circumſtances of power and influence, quietly to relinquiſh advantages they had long enjoyed, unleſs ſome adequate equivalent was propoſed; various perſons produced the following motion: "That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to give inſtruction "to the preſidency of Bengal, to ſettle ſuch regulations in carrying on the trade in ſalt, "beetle-nut, and tobacco, as ſhall prove moſt advantageous to this Company, without pre- "judicing the juſt rights of the Nabob of the provinces; and that ſuch regulations be "tranſmitted home to the Court of Directors by the firſt opportunity, with every infor- "mation which can enable them to determine on ſo important a ſubject."

This motion implies a total ſuſpenſion of at leaſt two years of any regulations; the forming a plan in Bengal, which ſhould be tranſmitted to England for the approbation of the Court of Directors before it was adopted, would have left this important branch of trade open ſo long, and it was evident ſuch delay would neceſſarily hazard further diſputes with the country government, which it was the earneſt deſire of the Court wholly to remove. The motion was oppoſed, from a full conviction of the bad tendency of delaying the propoſed regulations, in which I joined with many intelligent proprietors; it was in conſequence withdrawn, and the general court came to the following reſolution; viz.

"That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to reconſider the orders ſent to "Bengal relative to the trade of the Company's ſervants in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco; "and that they do give ſuch directions for regulating the ſame, agreeably to the intereſt "of the Company and the Subah, as to them may appear moſt prudent, either by ſettling "here at home the reſtrictions under which this trade ought to be caried on, or by referring "it to the Governor and Council of Fort William, to regulate this important point in ſuch "a manner as may prevent all future diſputes between the Subah and the Company.

If actions and words convey any meaning, certainly the withdrawing the firſt motion, becauſe of the delay and ſuſpenſion of neceſſary regulations, which it implied, and ſubſtituting in the room of that motion this new reſolution, clearly explains the meaning of the Court to be, that ſome regulations ſhould immediately be eſtabliſhed, either at home or abroad; the Directors expreſſly declare their inability to form a plan, deſtitute as they are of the neceſſary lights and informations; yet as they now chuſe to join in the general clamour, and throw an odium on their ſervants, they have been pleaſed to conſtrue their own orders into a meaning directly oppoſite to the beforementioned reſolution of the General Court, and and to ſtile this an unauthorized trade. The ſervants, never once imagining that the Court of Directors had aſſumed to themſelves an authority ſuperior to that of their conſtituents, adopted the ſentiments of the General Court of proprietors, at which court they themſelves moſt of them were preſent; they believed the orders of the Court of Directors, although looſely expreſſed, were intended to convey the ſpirit of the above reſolution. Among many injurious reflections which have been thrown out, it has been ſaid, that ſelf-intereſt influenced the conduct of the Select Committee in this inſtitution; and that the whole was calculated to bring advantages to themſelves. In anſwer to this, I beg leave to obſerve that every member of the Select Committee, under the advantages they conſequently poſſeſſed from their rank and ſituation in the ſervice, from their local knowledge and extent of credit, muſt have derived to themſelves much greater benefit from an open, free and unreſtrained trade ſubject to a duty even of 35 per cent. each carrying it on on his own account, than they could poſſibly expect from the ſhare aſſigned to each in this joint trade, ſubject to the ſame duty, and where the profits were limitted. So far as concerns myſelf in point of intereſt, I ſolemnly declare I would rather have preferred the former to the latter.

With reſpect to the plan adopted for the firſt year, for carrying on this joint trade, the ſame was formed upon the beſt knowledge we could then obtain of the quantities of ſalt conſumed in the country, and the medium prices of ſalt at the different markets. We actually ſearched back for near 20 years, and the prices in conſequence of this reſearch were paid at the ſeveral markets, at which the ſociety tranſported ſalt, from 12 to 15 per cent. lower than the medium prices of the ſaid term; from theſe markets it was diſperſed through the country by the natives: Our contracts for the purchaſes were likewiſe left open to the natives, and others indiſcriminately; ſo that it may be here obſerved, we ſought not the ultimate profits either in the purchaſe or the ſale. The plan was thus calculated to bring ſalt at a more reaſonable price to the hands of the conſumer; to encreaſe the revenues to the Company £. 120,000 per annum; and to hold out ſuch rewards of fidelity to their ſervants, as might engage them, by ties of intereſt and gratitude, to a cordial diſcharge of their duty; but experience having pointed out, in the courſe of a year, ſome defects in this firſt plan, further regulations were impoſed in that adopted for the ſecond year. The duties to the Company were augmented from 35 to 50 per cent. or from 120 to £. 160,000 per annum: The profits to the ſervants were diminiſhed; it was ordered that all ſalt ſhould be ſold in Calcutta at 2 rupees per maund to the native merchants, into whoſe hands, and under whoſe management, it was then intirely thrown, with ſuch limitation of profits at the different markets,

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as yielded a ſufficient encouragement to the merchant, and at the ſame time brought ſalt to the hands of the conſumer at a more moderate price than had been known in the preceding years. Such were the plans which are now ſtigmatized with the odious appellation of a monopoly: Theſe are the plans precipitately aboliſhed by the court of directors, notwithſtanding, to this hour, they have not ſubſtituted any thing in their room, which deſerves the name of regulations. I muſt here obſerve, that many circumſtances concurred to render this plan the moſt eligible that could then be adopted. The Company at this period having juſt come into the poſſeſſion of the dewannee, the Nabob's intereſt, with reſpect to the duties, was of courſe no longer a conſideration; but it became an object with the ſelect Committee, how to enable the Company to derive to themſelves, through the channel of their Commerce, all poſſible benefit from their new acquiſitions: This could not be effected but by an increaſed inveſtment in the manufactures of Bengal; to ſecure this increaſe, it became neceſſary to reſtrain the ſervants from proceeding ſo largely as they had been accuſtomed to on private account; goods of the ſame aſſortment with the Company's raw ſilk was earneſtly ſought for by the court of directors, and the ſervants were particularly reſtrained in that article, from which they had always derived the greateſt profits. Moreover, the whole body of proprietors having thought proper at this time to bind down by covenant their ſervants from the receipt of preſents, and the ſalaries allowed by the Company to their council being inadequate even to the charge of a houſe rent, no proſpects of returning to their native country remained to the ſervants, except from the advantages of an inland trade. Theſe are the reaſons which induced the ſelect Committee to loſe no time in forming a plan to carry on this important inland trade. What were the reaſons which operated with the court of directors to aboliſh and ſuffer the trade to relapſe into its former anarchy, they alone can beſt explain; they have aboliſhed a plan for the inland trade, from which the Company gained firſt £. 120, and next £. 160,000 per annum; from which their ſervants derived an honourable reward of their fidelity, with a reaſonable proſpect of independency at the cloſe of their ſervitude; from which the native merchants received their full ſhare of the advantage; and from which the conſumer received his ſalt at a more moderate rate than he had done for many years preceding; a plan equally advantageous to the Company, to the country, and to the ſervants; and which, in my opinion, they will ſoon be obliged to adopt again, or one ſimilar to it.

And the witneſs being aſked, whether he thought the quantity of ſalt made in Bengal, was equal to the conſumption? he ſaid, There were different opinions upon that ſubject, but in his own opinion, more than the conſumption was made; and that this opinion was formed from obſerving the difficulty the ſociety found in diſpoſing of their ſalt; and that ſpeaking at random, he ſhould imagine two millions of maunds would be ſufficient for the conſumption, and in favourable times 2,800,000 maunds were made: That ſalt was alſo imported into Bengal from the coaſt of Coromandel, and from Perſia; the quantities in general but ſmall, and that from Perſia principally uſed medicinally: That the regulations did not extend to the ſalt imported; and that no ſalt is exported. And being aſked, whether the Committee of trade, or governor and council, lent the money of the ſociety of trade to the treaſury in Bengal, and received the intereſt, and that intereſt being made principal was lent again, and ſo on from two months to two months? he ſaid, That no ſuch tranſaction ever paſſed to his knowledge: That on a report of that kind prevailing ſome weeks ago, he had made it his buſineſs to ſearch the Company's records upon that ſubject; and that he found on the conſultation of the 28th of January 1771, mention made that 16,000 rupees, principal money, was lent by the ſociety to the Company, on the uſual terms of 8 per cent. per annum intereſt: That it appeared by the ſame conſultation, that this ſame ſum had been paid into the treaſury ſo far back as the 23d of November; and that the bonds granted for the ſame were to bear intereſt from the time the money was paid into the treaſury, though they were not executed till two months after the payment, according to the uſual cuſtom of the ſervice; and that he ſince underſtood that it was upon this circumſtance, miſapprehending that two months intereſt had been paid, that ſuch report took its riſe.

And being aſked, if the governor and council ever pay intereſt for their bonds, except yearly? he ſaid, Never, when they pay the bonds off in ready money; but that it has been a cuſtom for many years paſt, on the diſpatch of the ſhips to Europe, that bonds are received with the intereſt made up thereon, without any regard to their dates, and cancelled for bills of exchange on Europe.

And the witneſs being queſtioned as to the prices of ſalt at Calcutta in the year 1761, and at other times previous to the eſtabliſhment of the ſociety; he informed your Committee, that in November 1761 he ſold 55,000 maunds at 155, in December 35,000 at 165:—Thoſe ſales, and the ſubſequent ones, were at a time when no duties were payable in Calcutta; but that the merchants who bought of him were ſubject to the duties of the country government; and all the taxes, ſtoppages, and vexations in the courſe of the boats up the country; that he ſold the following parcels as marked:

December

December 1767	Maunds.	2,000	at	167	For himſelf only.			
		3,444	at	160	October 17	1,100	at	173
		12,363	at	167	October 22	224	at	170
		1,551	at	162	December	541	at	170
January 1762	——	2,710	at	167		3,085	at	167

And the witneſs being aſked, If he knew of any books of accounts being kept by the Society, of the trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco? he ſaid, That one ſet of books, comprehending the accounts of the Society from the 1ſt of September 1765 to 31ſt of Auguſt 1766, was opened on the 1ſt of September 1765, under the denomination of Society of Trade, letter (A.) Another ſet of the ſame ſort were opened in the following year.

And being aſked, At what time the tax of 35 per Cent. was payable, and by whom? he ſaid, In the firſt year the duties were payable by the Committee of Trade, as guarantees for the proprietors; but no time was ſtipulated for the payment in the deed of incorporation: That the duties upon ſalt were computed at 90 rupees the 100 maunds; upon beetle nut, at the price at which the Society purchaſed; and that the Society never bought any tobacco.

Your Committee alſo examined William Bolts, Eſq; reſpecting the price of ſalt before and after the eſtabliſhment of the Salt Society; and he informed your Committee, That at a public ſale, in the Mayor's Court or Townhouſe of Calcutta, on the 2d or 3d of April 1764, 178,991 maunds were ſold in ſmall lots, 1,200 at 101, the reſt from 97 to 60 rupees per 100 maunds, and that the ſalt was at Salkey, oppoſite the town of Calcutta; on the 22d of November 1764, 20,000 maunds were delivered at Nulloa, about a day's journey from Calcutta, to Mr. Thomas Rumbold at 85; from October 1764, to March 1765, another quantity, of 15,725 maunds, were at the ſame place delivered to Mr. Walter Wilkins, at the ſame price; upon an agreement made in December 1764, 30,000 maunds were delivered by him in Calcutta, in April 1765, to Mr. Ruſſell Skinner, and Mr. Thomas Hewett, and others, at 80 rupees.—On the 29th of June 1765, his agent, Mr. Peter Gallopine, as adminiſtrator to Mr. William Hay, deceaſed, ſold Harry Verelſt 25,195 maunds, at 95 rupees. In Auguſt, 1765, and July, ſalt ſold from 112 to 116—September and October, to 141—November, 150—Auguſt, 1766, 230—October, 280.—Theſe were the currer prices of ſalt at that time.——At Calcutta and at Dacca, the prices were according to the following original account of ſale:

On the 13th September and 18th November 1765	——							170
January 1766	——	——						175
15th February	——	——	——	——	——	——	——	190
September 1768	——	——	——					305

And it was at the ſame price at that time at Rajahberry, a market two days journey from Dacca, as appears by an atteſtation under the Kazy's ſeal, produced by the witneſs. The prices of ſalt at Patna were, on the 13th March 1763, at 270 per 100 maund—from 31ſt January 1766, to 11th July, the witneſs ſold by his agent, Cojamaul, 7,200, at Baboa, Saſſeram, and Chouſa, at 4 rupees 7 annas per maund, or about 444 rupees per 100 maund—from 18th June 1766, to 14 May 1767, ſalt was ſold by his agent, Cojamaul, on the borders of the Patna province, at near 6 rupees per maund, or near from 578 to 600 rupees per hundred maunds, retail, at Chouſa and other places within the diſtance of 5 or 6 days ſail from Patna.

The witneſs further ſaid, That the rupees mentioned above were Benaras Sonauts; the maunds were 80 and 82 Sicca weight.

And being aſked, Why ſalt was at ſo low a rate at Patna in the year 1763? he ſaid, Becauſe it was very low at Calcutta at that time, which was the time of the troubles.

Being aſked, Whether every body at that time was ſelling their ſalt and all other commodities for what they could get? he ſaid, He was not under any apprehenſions, longer than the firſt months of the breaking out of the war—All the general alarm was over after the battle of Gareea, which happened on the 2d of Auguſt 1763.

Being aſked, What were the diſtances of Chouſa and Saſſeram from Patna? he anſwered, Two days; by water, four, or ſix, according to weather and current.

And the witneſs being deſired to inform the Committee, at what prices he had ſold ſalt at preceding periods; and having conſulted his books for that purpoſe, by deſire of the Committee, he tranſmitted an account, as follows: "In anſwer to the queſtion which was put "to me, relative to the duties and price of ſalt in Bengal and its dependant provinces, at pe- "riods previous and ſubſequent to the eſtabliſhment of the Excluſive Society at Calcutta in "the year 1765; upon a careful examination of authentic papers in my poſſeſſion, I find, "that at Patna,

"In May 1762, Mr. Henry Luſhington ſold 2000 maunds, at 3. 5. 0. per maund, "or at 331 rupees per 100 maunds.

"In May 1763, Mr. John Harris ſold 1200 maunds, at 2. 11. 0. per maund, or "268 rupees per 100 maunds.

"At Murſhedabad,

"In February 1763, Mr. P. Harney ſold 2,400 maunds, at 188 rupees per 100 "maunds.

"In

" In April 1765, Mr. Aſcanius William Senior ſold 1600 maunds, at 150 rupees per
" 100 maunds.

" At Calcutta,

" In the year 1761—From my tranſactions with Mr. John Wollaſton, Sooberam-
" byſaak, and others, I find the medium price of ſalt for the whole
" year, ſold and delivered at Calcutta, the ground duties being
" paid, was 170 rupees per 100 maunds.

" In the year 1762, It was from 170 to 160 ditto, the ground duties being alſo paid
" by the ſeller or importer.

" In January 1763—Upon the ſame conditions I ſold to a black merchant, name
" Chaund Haldar, 10,000 maunds, at the then market price of
" 159 rupees per 100 maunds.

" I have already given evidence of what the prices of ſalt were in the years 1764, 1765,
" 1766, 1767, and 1768.

" In the year 1769, I find, that Meſſieurs Archibald Keir and Comp. ſold to Mr.
" William Young, delivered at Calcutta, the duties being paid,
" 10,000 maunds of ſalt, at 126 rupees per 100 maunds.
" And to Kebolramghoſe, upon the ſame terms, maunds 1800, at
" 130 rupees per 100 maunds.
" And too Sook deb Mullick 59,393 maunds, deliverable at Culna,
" the ground duties being paid, at 140 rupees per 100 maunds.

" The Khallery or ground duty upon the making of ſalt, all over Bengal and Orixa, was
" always extremely inconſiderable, before the eſtabliſhment of the regulations made by the
" various Committees of the Engliſh Council at Calcutta, from the year 1762 to the pre-
" ſent time; inſomuch that a ſalt merchant making his ſalt at firſt hand, in a great part of
" the ſalt countries, could have made, tranſported, and landed his ſalt in Calcutta, within
" the expence of 25 rupees per hundred maunds.

" In the years 1762 and 1763, I was myſelf concerned in a large parcel of ſalt, which be-
" ing imported from the provinces of Jellaſore and Midnapore, and landed on the ſhore op-
" poſite to Calcutta, ground duty and all charges included, ſtood the concerned at the rate of
" fifty-five rupees per hundred maunds; upon the exportation of ſalt from Calcutta on our
" own accounts, I and my partners always paid the Rowanah duties eſtabliſhed with the
" country government; and upon the ſtoppage of ſome of our boats for the new duties, af-
" ter Governor Vanſittart had ſettled the Mongheer treaty with the Nabob Coſſim Ally
" Cawn, we actually paid the duty of 9 per 100, eſtabliſhed by that treaty during the con-
" teſt upon that ſubject, to avoid any appearance of a diſpute upon the value of the duty.

" The medium of the charges of tranſporting the abovementioned ſalt from the provinces
" of Jellaſore and Midnapore to Calcutta was about 7 3-16ths rupees per hundred maunds.

" The Committee of lands at Calcutta, during Mr. Vanſittart's government, about the
" year 1762, eſtabliſhed a ground duty, which continued to 1764, upon all ſalt made in the
" Company's twenty-four Pergunnahs, of thirty Sicca rupees per Khallary, or ſet of ſalt
" pans, which were eſtimated to produce in one ſeaſon from 250 to 300 maunds each Khal-
" lary; that duty was eſtabliſhed as an improvement of the Company's revenue, which it
" certainly was, but it was at that time looked upon as a great encroachment on the laws of
" the country; upon the eſtabliſhment of the Excluſive Society, by the Right Honourable
" Lord Clive and the Select Committee at Calcutta, in 1765, the above Khallary duty was
" by their regulations aboliſhed, though afterwards ſaid to be continued, and ſalt through-
" out the country was ſubjected by that Committee to a duty of 35 per Cent. valuing the ſalt
" at 90 Arcot rupees per hundred maunds; and in the year 1766 they fixed this duty at 50
" per Cent.—By a paper in my poſſeſſion, which is a copy tranſmitted to me from Bengal,
" of an order publiſhed in the Bengal language, by the Governor and Council of Calcutta,
" dated the firſt of April 1769, it appears the whole and ſole duty on ſalt was fixed at thirty
" rupees per hundred maunds, payable upon the diſpatch of the ſalt from the pans.

" Before the eſtabliſhment of the before-mentioned excluſive ſociety, Calcutta had ſo far
" become a general repoſitory and mart for ſalt, that it was from thence tranſported to every
" part of the country, even to Luckypore and other places, much nearer to the ſalt grounds
" than Calcutta; ſo that the prices which ſalt could have been afforded to be ſold for at all
" the inland places, upon a free inland trade, may be very nearly and fairly computed by
" calculating the riſk and charges to the reſpective markets, and adding them, with an equit-
" able profit, to the Calcutta price."

And Mr. Bolts being deſired to give an account of any boats belonging to him being ſtop-ped; he informed your Committee, that in the month of October 1766, 24 boats of old ſalt, belonging to him were ſtopped by the Phouzdar at Rajamaul — they had the Company's duſtuck, and the permit of Hooghly, having paid the 2½ per cent. the Phouzdar told his agent, as he informed him, that he did it by Mr. Sykes's orders; he applied to Mr. Sykes, but in the mean time the Phouzdar inſiſted upon having money, and took 100 ſicca rupees from his agent; the boats were detained, and at a conſiderable expence to him; that Mr. Sykes on his application got them releaſed, and ordered the 100 rupees to be returned; he had no allowance for loſſes ſuſtained by demorage, nor did he ever learn that the Phouzdar

was puniſhed. — The obſtructions he met with every where induced him to ſell many parcels of ſalt, at various places, much lower than he ſhould otherwiſe have done; that he ſold 7,582 maunds, to Mr. Sykes, at Salta Gunge, near the Dinagepore province, at 250 rupees per 100 maund, in Auguſt 1766; which ſalt he might have ſold at the ſame place, and at that time, for 300 rupees per 100 maund, if there had not been any obſtructions.

And Francis Sykes, Eſquire, being deſired to relate what he knew of the above tranſaction, ſaid, he recollects that Mr. Bolts wrote to him relative to the ſtoppage of ſome ſalt boats; that on the receipt of his letter he applied to the miniſters at Muxadabad, who enquired into the circumſtances; the Phouzdar's anſwer was, That the Duſtuck which Mr. Bolts's people were poſſeſſed of had not been produced to the proper officer; but on further enquiry into it, he found that Mr. Bolts's people had the duſtuck, and he could not get at the true knowledge why the boats were detained; but he deſired the adminiſtration would order the Phouzdar to return the money he had taken; which they did accordingly, and the money was returned; and that he recommended to them to puniſh the officer. — He declared that no officer of the government ever received any orders for the ſtopping of any boats whatever. — Rajamaul, where the boats were detained, is two days journey from Muxadabad.

And for further information reſpecting the prices of ſalt at different periods at Patna, your Committee examined Gregory Cojamaul; who ſaid, that in March 1765 he found by enquiry, the market price was 225 rupees the 100 maund; and he ſold ſome ſalt, the 14th of June following, to Kiſſing Chund and others, at 250 rupees; — at Saſſeram, the 30th of Auguſt 1766, he ſold ſalt at 575 rupees; — thoſe ſold at Patna, were for Patna Sonatus, thoſe at Saſſeram were Beñaras.

And being aſked, what was the price of beetle-nut at Patna, at the ſame time? he ſaid, On the 11th of March 1765 beetle-nut was at four rupees per maund; 28th of January 1767 beetle-nut was bought for him at 10 rupees per maund; on the 13th of October 1767 he bought of Mr. Rumbold's Banyan at 13 rupees per maund.

Your Committee next examined Thomas Rumbold, Eſquire, relative to the prices at which the ſalt, belonging to the Society of trade, ſold at Patna during his chiefſhip; and he informed your Committee, that he was chief of Patna from November 1766 to November 1769, and that a ſmall parcel of ſalt in 1767 ſold at 400 rupees and 12½th the hundred maund: That at the end of 1767 the greateſt part was contracted for, by ſome black merchants, at 375 Arcot rupees; — the retail price was four rupees to four rupees 12 annas — or from 450 to 457 rupees per 100 maund; — that of late years the price of ſalt has varied very much, according to whether there were troubles in the country or not; that he does not know of his own knowledge, but always underſtood that the medium price in former years was about 350 rupees per 100 maund — that by an account of ſales, on the 18th of September 1765, it appeared that part of the ſalt was ſold at 400, and a large part at 312. 6 annas.

The witneſs being aſked, What quantity of ſalt uſed to be imported into the province of Bahar, before the eſtabliſhment of the ſalt ſociety? — he ſaid, he found, by his own obſervations at Patna, that the conſumption was about 400,000 maunds a year.

And being aſked, whether the markets in Bahar were ſufficiently ſupplied? he ſaid, there was ſo large a quantity ſent up by the Society, that when he left Patna, in October 1769, there was a great quantity of the Society's ſalt remained uncalled for by the contracting merchants — when the Society firſt ſent up their ſalt, there was a great quantity of private merchants ſalt then at Patna, which hindered the ſale of their ſalt.

Being aſked, whether any ſalt was imported into Bahar by individuals, after the eſtabliſhment of the ſalt Society? he ſaid, the merchants who purchaſed the Society's ſalt, the latter end of 1767, had agreed with them, that no ſalt belonging to individuals ſhould be allowed to be imported into Bahar till September 1768: — That the Society reſerved that time to themſelves for diſpoſing of their own ſalt — all the Society's ſalt ſold before the above contracts from 412 to 425; no orders ever came to Patna for fixing the price of ſalt.

And being aſked, whether any applications were made to him to hinder the natives making ſalt in 1768? he ſaid, The Company's ſaltpetre works were under his directions as chief of Patna. In the diſtrict of Durbangar the Society's agents Mr. Lethieullier, complained to him that the ſaltp etremanufacturers, inſtead of making the ſaltpetre they ought to do for the Company, were employed in making ſalt, to the great detriment of the ſale of the Society's ſalt; it had always been cuſtomary, from the refuſe of the petre, to make a ſmall quantity of ſalt, which ſalt paid a ſmall duty to the Phouſdar, he alſo paying a duty to the government.—He acquainted Mr. Lethieullier that he could not put a ſtop to the making of that ſalt, as it would interfere with the duties to the government — on this he complained to the Society of trade; in conſequence of which he received a letter from the preſident and Council, dated May 1768, to which, and his anſwer on the records, he referred.

And being aſked, whether he knows of any orders from Mahomed Reza Cawn for ſtopping the boats going to Patna? — he ſaid, there were orders from the Society of trade to him, and from M. R. Cawn to Shetabroy, that no ſalt was to be allowed to paſs into the province till September 1768; that he has not the letter to aſcertain the date, but he has his anſwer, which is dated the 25th of May 1768; that the nature of the order to Shetabroy was much the ſame as that to himſelf; that he, Mr. Rumbold, on the receipt of his letter, deſired Shetabroy to regulate that matter himſelf, and that he never afterwards interfered in it — That

applications

applications were made to him for boats that were ſtopt in conſequence of that order; and that he has always referred them to Shetabroy, who had the execution of that buſineſs.

And in order to obtain further information, relative to the ſales of ſalt, your Committee examined Doctor William Semple; who informed your Committee, that he went to Bengal as a free merchant, and was appointed a ſalt agent the beginning of April 1766 — That his inſtructions were to take the opinion of the gentlemen of the factory in ſettling the price, and report it to the Committee for conducting the trade — That he found the gentlemen at a loſs and therefore conſulted the Black Merchants: The price he recommended was 250 rupees the 100 maunds; at which price, with the approbation of the Committee of trade, he ſold upwards of 300,000 maunds — That in the courſe of the enſuing winter, as he believed a little after Chriſtmas, and the beginning of 1767, he raiſed the price, being informed that it was cuſtomary in a dry ſeaſon for the ſalt to riſe, and ſold 50,000 maunds at 320 rupees in the courſe of the ſpring, and 31,000 at 300—1000 at 325; this was before the concluſion of the firſt year's ſale, which finiſhed in Auguſt 1767—that the ſecond year's ſale he opened at 300 rupees 100 maunds, on the firſt of September 1767—that the merchants complaining to him, that the price was rather too high, he reported it to the Committee, who authorized him to reduce it; and that he ſettled it, with the perfect conſent of his employers and the purchaſers, at 200 rupees, and ſold 470,000 maunds, or thereabouts, at that price—that he finiſhed the ſecond year's ſale in September 1768—that the Committee ſignified to him, that the ſociety was to be diſſolved, and he therefore notified it by their deſire to the public, by a public advertiſement.—And being aſked, if on the ſecond year's eſtabliſhement he had any ſtated price delivered to him at which the ſalt ſhould be ſold, and from whom?—he ſaid, he was inſtructed by the Committee of trade to open the ſale at 300 rupees for 100 maunds, which was the price he had recommended; and that there were no other alterations made in the price of ſalt than thoſe he had mentioned—and being aſked, if all the ſalt produced in the lower diſtricts of Dacca was ſold by him at Rajaberry, or whether part of it was conſigned by him to the other agents at different places? he ſaid, that the firſt year part of it was ſo conſigned; that the ſecond year he ſold the whole himſelf, and to black merchants, agreeable to his orders ſo to do—and being aſked, when he went to Dacca, and whether he had any orders or injuctions from Lord Clive before he went?—he ſaid, he arrived at Dacca in the beginning of May—that when he waited on Lord Clive before he ſet out, his Lordſhip told him that the ſalt trade was ſettled in the beſt method they could think of—that there were many arguments for and againſt that trade, amongſt the ſtrongeſt of which, in his opinion, one was, ſending ſo many Europeans into the country, where they were frequently guilty of many outrages; and that he hoped better things of the witneſs—that the inſtant he had any well-vouched fact of that ſort againſt any one of the agents, he ſhould be called down:—And being aſked, what proportion ſalt ſold at Rajaberry at 250 rupees bears to ſalt ſold in Calcutta at 200, allowing for the difference of riſk, and proximity of Rajaberry to the great markets of the country?—he ſaid, At Rajaberry they were liable to great loſſes, and therefore their price was obliged to be higher;—that the ſalt coming over the open ſea, great loſſes often happened; whole fleets of the boats being caſt away; and he concluded by ſaying, that there were not any murmurs at the price of 250 rupees.

Your Committee proceeded next to enquire into the nature of the deed, mentioned, in the former part of this report, and alſo in the report of the Committee of ſecrecy, to have been ſolicited by the Committee of trade, on the 16th of September 1765, and into the tranſactions reſpecting the ſame.

And Your Committee examined Mr. Richard Whittall; who being aſked, if he knew any thing of a deed to protect the ſalt trade, and to indemnify the Committee of trade?—he ſaid, he was a ſworn attorney of the Mayor's court at Calcutta;—that in October 1765, Mr. Verelſt applied to him, and gave him inſtructions to prepare a deed of indemnity from the preſident and council of Bengal to the Committee of trade;—that he accordingly drew one up; and which upon being ſhewn to Mr. Verelſt, he having made ſome alterations, approved of it; that the witneſs afterwards laid a fair copy of it before the governor and council for their approbation; that by direction of the board he made ſome further alterations and additions in his own hand, and ingroſſed it, and delivered it to Mr. Laurell, the ſecretary to the Committee of trade;—that about ten days afterwards he waited on Mr. Laurell, who deſired him to fill up the penalty, and alter the date, which was the 11th of September, to ſome ſubſequent day, to make it conſiſtent with the other deed from the ſociety to the Committee of trade; the date of which had been altered, before execution, from the 12th of Auguſt to the 18th of September:—And being aſked, If he could ſpeak with certainty as to any time poſterior, to which the deed referred to muſt have been executed, ſuppoſing it was ever executed? he ſaid, That in the beginning of November he rented another houſe, where he was very certain both the deeds referred to were ingroſſed; and the ſeal which the deed from the ſociety to the Committee of trade was ſealed, he had from the owner of that houſe after he went into it;—that to the beſt of his remembrance he delivered both deeds to the Secretary about the middle of November, about ten days after which he altered the date, and filled up the blank for the penalty;—that he was therefore induced to believe it muſt be the end of November, or begining of December, before

either

either of them were executed. And being aſked, if he had ever ſeen either of them after they were executed; he ſaid, In September 1766 he waited on Lord Clive, to receive inſtructions to prepare another deed, when his Lordſhip informed him, that he had been peruſing thoſe two deeds, and which were then laying before him on the table;—that his Lordſhip obſerved to him that there was not any valuable conſideration expreſſed, and aſked him, if he thought them valid?—that he ſaid, he could not aſcertain how far they were valid in law, but that he had prepared them agreeable to the inſtructions he had received. And being aſked, If he was ſure the deed, if ever executed, muſt have been executed after the 15th of October?—he ſaid, He was poſitive of it.—And being aſked, With what ſum the blank for the penalty was filled up?—he ſaid, he believed 300,000l. and that Lord Clive talked of thoſe deeds to him as deeds executed.—And being aſked, Whether he had any inſtructions to keep this tranſaction ſecret?—he ſaid, He had not; but that he never did mention it to any body but Mr. Banks, which was in the year 1769;—that he did not mention it, becauſe he thought it was a matter that ſhould not be made public, from the nature of the tranſaction, it being an agreement to carry on a trade contrary to the orders of the Company.—And being aſked, What were his motives for mentioning it to Mr. Banks, after keeping it ſecret for three years?—he ſaid, That talking to Mr. Banks, whom he eſteemed his friend, about a contract he had made for the Committee of trade, he mentioned it in common converſation.—And being aſked, when and on what occaſion, he firſt mentioned the deed in England?—he ſaid, That he mentioned it ſoon after his arrival, which was in November 1770, becauſe he thought it ought to be made public, and that he was not bound in honour to keep it ſecret;—that he firſt ſpoke of it to Mr. Bolts, and in December 1771, was called before the Court of Directors to be examined about it. (The copy of the rough draft of the deed produced by Mr. Whittall, as referred to him in the above evidence, is hereunto annexed, No. 63.)

Then William Brightwell Sumner, Eſquire, being aſked, If he knew any thing of a deed entered into between the Governor and Council, and Committee of trade, to enſure the carrying on the ſalt Society for one year? ſaid, That ſuch a deed was entered into; the expreſs terms of the deed he did not recollect; but he ſaid he conſidered it as an engagement on the part of the proprietors to pay to the Company certain ſtipulated duties, and on the part of the Governor and Council to ſecure to the proprietors the carrying on that trade for the ſpace of one year, or to ſave and bear them harmleſs.—Being aſked, whether any mention was made of that deed by the Governor and Council upon record? he referred your Committee to the conſultations 16th of September 1765, and to the 40th and 41ſt paragraphs of the letter from the Governor and Council to the Court of Directors, dated the 30th of September 1765 (copies of which are annexed in the appendix to the former Report of this Committee.)—And Mr. Sumner being aſked, Whether the deed, which he had formerly ſaid was executed, was drawn up by Mr. Whittall?—he anſwered in the affirmative.

Some days after the above examination, Henry Strachey, Eſq; a Member of the Committee, produced a paper, which he ſaid he believed to be a copy of the deed of indemnity to protect the Society of the ſalt trade:—That he ordered a copy to be made, when he was in Bengal, in 1766 or January 1767:—That the paper is in the hand writing of Mr. William Hippiſley Cox, who was in his office at that time, as to the body of it; and that the names of the contracting parties ſubſcribed to it, and the indorſement, are in the hand writing of Mr. William Wynne, who was alſo an aſſiſtant in his office;—and that he believed it to be the copy he ſo ordered to be made.——And being aſked, When he found that that copy was in his poſſeſſion?—he replied, A few weeks ago, but could not ſay exactly.—And being aſked, If he could ſay, that the deed was executed before the 15th of October 1765?—he ſaid, He did not know when it was executed.—And your Committee have alſo annexed a copy of the ſaid deed produced by Mr. Strachey, No. 64.

Your Committee having thus ſtated all the circumſtances they have been able to collect reſpecting the deed of indemnity in 1765, they think proper to remark, That by a letter from the Committee of trade, dated the 15th of July 1767, entered in general conſultations of the 27th of the ſame month, it appears that a ſecond deed of indemnity muſt have been entered into with the Committee of Trade for that year, viz. Meſſrs. Cartier, Ruſſell, Alderſey, and Floyer; but no ſuch deed has appeared before your Committee, nor can they diſcover any traces of it in the records of the Company.

Your Committee is next proceeding, in purſuance of their original plan, to enquire into the ſeveral matters therein contained, and they will report from time to time, to the Houſe, the progreſs they ſhall make therein.

Your Committee have added to the Appendix, No. 65, 66, and 67, State of the Duannee revenues of the Eaſt India Company's territorial acquiſitions, from May 1765 to the laſt advices, with the amount of charges, collecting, &c, and civil and military charges, with the nett annual balance; and alſo the ſtate of the receipt of the northern Sircars from the time of the grant of them to the laſt advices; and alſo copy of the minute of Mr. John Johnſtone, October the 1ſt 1765, in anſwer to the additional declarations of Mahomed Reza Cawn, in his letter of the 23d of June 1765, and the reſolutions of the Select Committee thereupon, on the 4th of July following; which papers are referred to in the body of the laſt report from this Committee, but were omitted to be annexed in the Appendix thereto.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

Company's Letter to Bengal, 22d February 1764.

35. WE cannot avoid taking notice, that in the courſe of the proceedings between the commiſſaries of this company, and thoſe of the Dutch, among other of the latter's alledged grievances, they complain that the ophium trade at Patna had been monopolized by Mr. M'Gwire; and we find by your regiſters, that the ſaid complaint was too well founded: you are therefore to ſignify to Mr. M'Gwire our diſpleaſure at this tranſaction of his; and as ſuch a proceeding in future muſt prove very prejudicial to individuals, and be the means of occaſioning embarraſſments to the company, it is our poſitive orders, that you take care to prevent every kind of monopoly; and if you find any perſon or perſons guilty of ſuch unfair practices, he or they are to be forthwith diſmiſſed from the Company's ſervice.

No. 2.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Eaſt India Company, dated at Berkley Square, 27th April 1764.

"IT is likewiſe true, that the encroachments made upon the Nabob's preſcriptive rights, by "the governor and council, and the reſt of the ſervants, trading in the articles of ſalt, "beetle, and tobacco; together with the power given by Mr. Vanſittart to ſubject our go- "maſtahs or agents to the juriſdiction and inſpection of the country government; all concurred "to haſten and bring on the late troubles; but ſtill the groundwork of the whole was the "Nabob's independency. It is impoſſible to rely upon the moderation and juſtice of Muſſul- "men; ſtrict and impartial juſtice ſhould ever be obſerved; but let that juſtice come from our- "ſelves. The trading therefore in ſalt, beetle, and tobacco, having been one cauſe of the pre- "ſent diſputes, I hope theſe articles will be reſtored to the Nabob, and your ſervants abſolutely "forbid to trade in them. This will be ſtriking at the root of the evil. The prohibition of "duſtucks to your junior ſervants will, I hope, tend to reſtore that œconomy which is ſo "neceſſary in your ſervice. Indeed, if ſome method be not thought of, and your Council "do not heartily co-operate with your Governor to prevent the ſudden acquiſitions of for- "tunes, which have taken place of late, the Company's affairs muſt greatly ſuffer. What "power it may be proper to inveſt me with, to remedy theſe great and growing evils, will "merit your ſerious conſideration: as a means to alleviate in ſome meaſure the diſſatisfaction "that ſuch reſtrictions upon the commercial advantages of your ſervants may occaſion in them, "it is my full intention not to engage in any kind of trade myſelf; ſo that they will divide "amongſt them what uſed to be the Governor's portion of commercial advantages, which was "always very conſiderable."

No. 3.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Court of Directors, dated Calcutta 1ſt February 1766.

14. PERMIT me, Gentlemen, to return you my moſt grateful acknowledgements for the confidence you are pleaſed to repoſe in me, by the 40th paragraph of your general letter of the 15th of February 1765, in relation to the important article of the ſalt trade; and though I hope my conduct in your ſervice will entitle me to your approbation in every other inſtance, I cannot but congratulate myſelf on the ſucceſs of that particular plan, ſince it was originally propoſed by me, during my voyage to India.—The only doubt that aroſe with me was, whether the management of the trade of ſalt, beetle, and tobacco, ſhould be intruſted to Europeans or to natives; and although I acquieſced with the reſt of the members of the Select Committee, in having it carried on by the free merchants, give me leave to aſſure you, my acquieſcence proceeded rather from a principle of humanity, than a conviction that it was more for the intereſt of the Company, or for the intereſt of the ſociety; but as every day's experience demonſtrates the impropriety of the preſent mode, it becomes my duty to explain to you my ſentiments on that ſubject.

15. The original capital for carrying on this trade being 24 lack, which is ſpeedily to be increaſed to 32, and the ſalt being to be diſpoſed of at ſo many different and diſtant parts of the

country, gives room for boundleſs expence; an aſtoniſhing number of boats muſt be provided, and kept in conſtant repair, and armies of ſeapoys muſt be maintained to protect them, as well as the agents at their ſeveral places of reſidence. Theſe ſeapoys, under the ſanction of their maſters names, will lay the whole country under contribution; wherever they go, remonſtrances and complaints without number will be made by the country government; and the revenues, in which you are more immediately affected, will fall ſhort: theſe agents, beſides drawing 5 per cent. upon the net ſales, will build elegant houſes for their own convenience; and I verily believe that an hundred and fifty thouſand pounds will ſcarce defray the extraordinary, and in my opinion uſeleſs, expence, by confining the ſale of ſalt to Calcutta, Dacca, and two or three other principal places where the ſalt is produced: all theſe inconveniences will be remedied; the company will receive as much; the proprietors will receive as much as they do upon the preſent plan; the immoderate charges of agents, boatmen, houſes, boats, and ſeapoys, will be ſaved; the capital need be but half of what it is now, and conſequently the intereſt of a large ſum of money will not be laviſhed; inſtead of confuſed and complicated accounts and returns, not in two years, the accounts will be ſimple and plain, and the returns immediate: but what weighs more with me than all the arguments hitherto advanced is, that we ſhall avoid the odious imputation of monopoly: thouſands of the natives will have profits out of this article, by purchaſing it at two or three places only, and diſpoſing of it afterwards all over the country; for I propoſe that no European whatever ſhall have any further concern in it.

16. If you ſhould think proper to adopt this new mode of carrying on the ſalt trade, and agree with me in the expediency of withdrawing all the free merchants, humanity will call upon you to make ſome proviſion for thoſe who are deſerving of your favour; and I cannot, in juſtice to the characters of the following gentlemen, avoid recommending them to your conſideration; their age, behaviour, and experience, intitle them to the rank of factors; and I doubt not they will become meritorious ſervants of the Company.

Mr. Archdekin,	Dalrymple,	Lethieullier.
Baillie,	Kellican,	
Benſley,	Knott,	
Blomer,	Liſter,	
Cobham,	Mudie,	
Craigie,	Yates,	

The very ſenſible behaviour of Mr. Ducarel, upon the ſigning of the memorial of the ſervants to the Court of Directors, obliges me to point him out to you, as particularly deſerving of your favour; although he was only appointed a writer laſt year, yet his age and underſtanding qualify him for a higher ſtation; ſome encouragement you will undoubtedly beſtow upon him for his conduct in the late affair.

No. 4.

Fort William Conſultation, 22d February 1763.

Copy of the Imperial Mandate.

To all Governors, Officers, and Managers of our Affairs, Jagirdars, Fauzdars, Karuries, Rahdars, Guzrdans, and Zemindars, of the preſent and time to come, in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, Orixa, Port of Hughley, and other Ports of the aforeſaid Provinces, who hope for the Imperial Favour.

BE it known unto all you, that in theſe days of our triumphant reign, Mr. John Surmon, and C. Huajah Sherad, agents on the part of the Engliſh Company, have preferred a petition in our juſt and equitable preſence to the following purpoſe:

In conſequence of a decree of his moſt Sacred and Imperial Majeſty Shah, deceaſed, and former grants, the Engliſh Company are exempted from all cuſtoms in all parts of our dominion, except the port of Suratt, pay annually into the imperial treaſury at Hughley three thouſand rupees, as a tribute in lieu of cuſtoms; and hope that, according to former grants, our royal mandate will be vouchſafed to them.

Our abſolute and high command is paſſed, That you, knowing well whatever goods and merchandize their agents may bring into, or carry out from, the ports, borders, and quarters of theſe provinces, either by land or by water, be exempt from duties, ſhall leave them to buy and ſell at their own free liberty, ſhall annually receive the eſtabliſhed tribute, and upon no other account impede or interrupt them.—Moreover,

If any where the leaſt article of their effects ſhall be made away with, you are to uſe all diligence in the recovery thereof; and ſhall deliver over the thieves to condign puniſhment, and the goods to the proper owner: further, whereſoever they may ſet up a factory, and buy and ſell goods and merchandize, you are to afford them help and ſupport in all matters of contract, and with all juſtice and fairneſs cauſe to be repaid unto their agents whatever demands they may have upon any merchant, weaver, or other perſon; and you are to allow no one to moleſt their agents; or ſhall you ſtop boats hired by them, or of their own property, for toll, or on any other account whatever.

They

They alſo repreſented to our moſt Sacred and Excellent Majeſty as follows:

In our provinces the petty officers inſiſt upon the original grant and atteſtation under ſeal of the nadthim and devan of the province; but tranſmitting the original grant into all parts being difficult, they hope that, accordingly, credit may be given to copies under ſeal of a cazzy magiſtrate, and the original grant not be demanded, nor they interrupted for want of an atteſtation from the nad nazim and deiwan. Moreover,

That in Calcutta the Company have a factory; that the right of holding Calcutta, Sacalutee, Gobindpoor, in the eſtimate of the Pergunnah, Ameerabad, &c. of the province of Bengal, which they bought of the Zemindars, has been a long time made over to them; that they pay annually, as a tax for it, one thouſand one hundred and ninety-five rupees, ſix annahs: alſo, that there are thirty-three villages at the taxation of eight thouſand one hundred and twenty-one rupees, eight annahs, pertaining to the ſaid diſtricts; they intreat that the right of holding the ſaid diſtricts be granted to them, the tax for which they being annually to pay into the royal treaſury.

Our moſt high and equitable decree has been made to this effect: Copies of the original grant, under ſeal of the chief cazzy magiſtrate, ſhall be deemed valid; and we have been pleaſed graciouſly to confirm them in their right of holding the dees regſous they have purchaſed, upon the former conditions; and granted them the power of keeping the other diſtricts, for which they petitioned the deiwan of the province ſhall ſuffer them to make the purchaſe of the lawful owners.

They further intreat as follows:

From the reign of his moſt bounteous Majeſty Shah, deceaſed, in the provincial treaſuries, an exchange has been taken on their money coined at Cheenapatan; now ſeeing that the ſilver of their ſaid money is of equal fineneſs with that of Suratt, they, our ſubjects, though petitioners, accordingly ſuffer a loſs; and humbly beg that our imperial order may be paſſed, that they be not moleſted on account of the value of their coin, equal in goodneſs to that of Suratt and other places.—Moreover,

That if any of the Company's ſervants indebted to them ſhould make his eſcape from any of their ſettlements, he may be ſent back to the chief of their factory; alſo, that they be not interrupted on account of the ſouzdarry duties, or any other abuab fauzdary practices not allowed, becauſe of which the Company's agents and officers do ſuffer inconveniency.

An order from our moſt high and authoritative court has been paſſed to the following effect:

From the 5th year of this bleſſed reign, if the ſilver coined at Cheenapatan ſhall in fineneſs be like unto the coin of the royal harbour of Suratt, there ſhall be no diſcount required on the cuſſore, or the exchange.—And,

Any one of the Company's ſervants who ſhall be indebted to them, and make his eſcape from any of their ſettlements, you are to apprehend and deliver up to the chief of their factory; nor ſhall you throw any impediment in their way, on account of collecting the cuſtoms not allowed.

They have alſo repreſented, that,

In Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, the Company have factories; and being deſirous of erecting factories in other places, humbly beg, that whereſoever they may ſet up a factory forty begahs of ground will be granted them from the lands of the empire: moreover, their veſſels at ſundry times, through ſtorms of wind, are forced on ſhore in our ports, and are ſtranded; the governors of the ports injuriouſly make prize of the cargo, and in divers places inſiſt upon a fourth part of it; further, in the iſland of Bombay, belonging to the Engliſh, the European coin is current, may be ſtruck into ſiccas as at Cheenapatan.

Our abſolute decree is, that ye ſhall act as is the cuſtom at all factories in our other provinces; and ye are to protect theſe people, who hold factories in all parts of the empire, and extend their traffick even into the imperial camp, with their effects and veſſels ſtranded or damaged, and ſupply them with all things neceſſary.—And,

In the iſland of Bombay ſiccas ſhall be ſtruck, and be current in like manner as the ſiccas in other parts of the kingdom of equal fineneſs with the coin current in our happy realms ſhall paſs for equal value.—Moreover, in all affairs ye are to act conformable to this glorious decree, and ſtrictly abſtain from and avoid what is repugnant to the order of our moſt high court; nor ſhall you every year inſiſt upon a freſh ſunnud grant: herein uſe all care and diligence. Written on the 27 of the moon Maharam ul Haram, the 5th year of his Majeſty's auſpicious reign.

Tranſlate, No. 3. Copy of a Purwannah under Seal of the Grand Vizier Camſed Deen Chan Cheen Bahadur, directed to Nawab Serfaraz Chan; viz.

May his Excellence of eminent and high rank, the glorious Lord Serafaraz Chan, be diſtinguiſhed with the imperial favour. At this time the deputy on the part of the Engliſh Company has petitioned as follows:

The Company have obtained the imperial mandate, comprehending an exemption on all cuſtoms, on their paying annually the tribute of three thouſand rupees into the royal treaſury at the port of Hughley, and they do pay that tribute into the ſaid port; but the people under the

the nazim, and the deiwans in the provinces, fouzdars, and others, contrary to the order of his moſt ſacred and auguſt Majeſty, to moleſt them in their way, they being in humble expectation, that an haſbut hukin, directed to your Excellency of eminent and high rank, comprehending an exemption and uninterruption, in conformity to the imperial mandate, may be granted them; and it appearing, on the face of the books in his Majeſty's office, that the ſum of three thouſand rupees, in lieu of cuſtoms in the Engliſh Company, is annually eſtabliſhed; his moſt excellent Majeſty's huſbul hukin is accordingly, That you ſhall reſolve to act in purſuance of the imperial mandate, not interrupting or moleſting them by any manner of exaction; in this matter uſe the exacteſt diligence and utmoſt diſpatch. Written on the 17 of Rajabut Marejab, the 9th year of the reign.

Tranſlation, No 5. Copy of his moſt Sacred and Imperial Majeſty's Haſbut Hakin, under Seal of Cotab ol Melk Yameen ed Dowlah Seyed Abe Ellah C. Han Bahadur, victorious in War, Commander of the Forces, truſty and well beloved; viz.

To the Miniſters of State of the preſent, and Time to come, in all Parts and Provinces of theſe happy Realms.

Be it known unto you all, that at this time Mr. John Surman, and C. Hwajah Serhad, and Mr. Stevenſon, petitioners on the part of the Engliſh Company, have intreated in the moſt gracious and auguſt preſence, that the moſt ſacred and imperial orders might be paſſed in their name to the following effect:

"Every Company's ſervant indebted to them, that may deſert their ſettlements, ſhall be ſent back again to the chief of their factory."

Which being allowed—his imperial Majeſty's huſbut hukin is written, that ye ſhall apprehend every ſuch perſon of the ſervants of the Company as ſhall deſert their ſettlements, and deliver him up to the chief of their factory: in this matter uſe all diligence. Written on the 9th of the moon Dzee Hijah, the 5th year of the reign.

No. 6. Copy of his moſt Sacred and Imperial Majeſty's Haſbut Hukin, &c. &c.

Be it known unto you all, that at this time Mr. John Surman and C. Hajah, and Mr. Stevenſon, petitioners on the behalf of the Engliſh Company, have intreated as follows:

The Company's agents and officers in moſt places being troubled on account of Formaiſh Abuab Mumnuah, collecting the cuſtoms not allowed, they requeſt his Majeſty's orders may be paſſed, that they be not impeded on account of fouzeany or zemindary duties, or the other cuſtoms not allowed.

A decree of the moſt high court, exempting them from the cuſtoms not allowed, being made, and the imperial mandate granted them; his moſt ſacred and excellent Majeſty's haſbut hukin is accordingly written, that ye act in ſtrict compliance with the glorious edict, ſhall not in any manner impede or moleſt the ſaid people on account of cuſtoms not allowed by the imperial court, to the end that they may carry on the buſineſs of their trade to their own ſatisfaction. In this matter uſe the exacteſt diligence. Written on the 9th of the moon Dzee Hijah, the 5th year of the reign.

Copy of the Imperial Haſbut Hukin, under Seal of Jemlattul Mulk Modarul Moham, the Grand Vizir of the Realms, Eatemadod Dowla Camarod Deen C. Han Cheen Bahadur Naſſatt Jaug Mahamed Skahy.

To the Officers of State of the preſent and time to come, in the Provinces of Bahar, Paradiſe of Nations, Bengal, and Orixa. Be it known unto you all, that at this Time, Aneep Chand, Deputy on part of the Engliſh Company, has petitioned as follows:

The Company have obtained a ſpecial mandate of exemption from cuſtoms, on paying the annual tribute of three thouſand rupees at Hughly Port, and they do pay the eſtabliſhed tribute at the ſaid port; but the people of the nadthim and deiwans in the provinces and fouzdars, and others, contrary to his Majeſty's moſt inviolable commands, moleſt them in their way; they being in humble expectation, that an haſbut hukin of exemption from duties and uninteruption, purſuant to the imperial mandate will be granted them, ſince alſo from the face of the books in his Majeſty's office it appears, that the ſum of three thouſand rupees peſhkuſh, in lieu of cuſtoms on the Engliſh Company, is eſtabliſhed in Hughley Port. Accordingly the imperial huſbut huken is written, in order that, purſuant to the contents of the ſpecial mandate which they have obtained, ye may proceed, and in no manner or way hinder or moleſt them in this particular year, to uſe the exacteſt diligence and utmoſt diſpatch. Written on the 29th of the moon Shaaban, the 9th year of the reign.

No. 13. Copy of a Diſtah under Seal of Jemlattul Mulk, &c. Grand Vizir Camarod Deen Chan Behadur.

To all Gomaſtahs, Fouzdars, Rahdars, Gurznbans, and Zemindars, and others, Guardians of the Roads and Paſſes in the Provinces Bahar, Paradiſe of Nations, Bengal, and Orixa, this Diſtah is written; viz.

The Engliſh Company are exempt from all duties, purſuant to the Emperor's ſpecial mandate, and they pay annually three thouſand rupees into the treaſury at Hughley in lieu of cuſtoms; and in the aforeſaid provinces they are allowed to have annually, for the time to come, fleets of boats paſſing and repaſſing:—the imperial haſbut hukin is in conſequence written, that you ſhall not ſtop or interrupt them on account of taking toll, and the other cuſtoms not allowed by the court, but ſhall ſuffer them to paſs in ſafety. In this particular uſe the moſt exact diligence and utmoſt diſpatch. Written on the 17th of Rejat ul Morajab, the 9th year of the reign.

Tranſlate, N°. 16. Copy of the Imperial Haſbut Hukin, under Seal of Colabut Mulk Seyed Abdallah Chan Bahadur, &c. &c.

To the Officers of State of the preſent and Time to come, in the Provinces of theſe happy Realms.

Be it known unto you, that at this time Mr. John Surman and C. Huajall and Mr. Stevenſon, petitioners on the part of the Engliſh Company, have repreſented in the moſt ſacred and auſpicious preſence; as follows:

At the ports that the Company have factories eſtabliſhed, the Engliſh people buy and ſell in moſt of the ports and aurungs; but in ſundry places and aurungs, whither the ſending of Engliſhmen can't be effected, they make contracts with the merchants and traders of their country, and depoſit their money with the merchants and traders, to purchaſe the commodities and bring them to them; they hope that his Majeſty's order may be given to the officers of ſtate, that they ſhall not hinder or interrupt any perſon that with a duſtuck from the chief of their factory may make any purchaſe in theſe ports and aurungs.

His Majeſty's abſolute decree being made, that you ſhall take the liſt of the account under ſeal of the chief of their factory; and according to that liſt give a fannad under your own ſeal; the imperial haſbut hukin is written, for you to proceed in conformance to his Majeſty's decree, and taking a liſt of the account under ſeal of the chief of their factory, you ſhall give a fannad under your own ſeal, agreeable to that liſt:—In this matter uſe the exacteſt diligence and utmoſt diſpatch. Written on the 5th of the moon Dezee Hijah, the 5th year of the reign.

No. 21. Copy of the Imperial Haſbut Hukin, under Seal of Seyed Abdullah Chan, &c. &c.

May his Excellency of eminent and princely rank, Akaram C. Han, be favoured with the Almighty protection.

At this time Mr. John Surman Chuajah and Mr. Stevenſon, petitioners on the part of the Engliſh Company, have repreſented in the moſt high and reſpectable court as follows:

The gold and ſilver, on account of the Company, uſed to be coined in the mints Johangirnagar and Akbarganar:—But a mint being ſome years paſt eſtabliſhed in Harcemabad, they humbly hope that the Company's money may be coined therein as heretofore, and that the officers of the mint may aſk no more than what is cuſtomary, and take only the appointed charges; and that when the merchants may have a great deal of bullion, three days in the week may be allotted for coining the Company's money; his Majeſty's moſt authoritative decree being paſſed, That your Excellency do cauſe ſuch regulation to be made; the imperial haſbut hukin is accordingly written, that you do *eſtabliſhed* that the gold and ſilver of the Company, according to former cuſtom, be coined in the mint of Kariemabad; and when the merchants may have a great deal of bullion, upon condition the government ſuffers no loſs therefrom, you ſhall cauſe that three days in the week be ſet apart for coining the money of theſe people. In this matter obſerve the exacteſt diligence and utmoſt diſpatch. Written the 9th of Dzeehijah, the 5th year of the reign.

N°. 22. Copy of a Charter under Seal of the moſt excellent Meer Mahomed Jaaffir Chan Bahadur, Mahabatt Jang, from the 27th of the Month Showal, the 4th Year of the Reign. To the Officers of State of the preſent and Time to come, Lieutenants, Fouzdars, Zemindars, Chowdhries, Canungoies, Officers, and Managers, in the Paradiſe of Nations, Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa.

Be it known unto you, ſeeing that the Engliſh Company is exempt from duties, in conſequence of the ſpecial mandate and imperial haſbut hukin:—Therefore we have written, to the end that on thoſe goods, which the Company's factors carry backwards and forwards by land or by water, with a duſtuck under ſeal of the chief of their factory, at their factories, aurungs, and other places, you are not to demand the leaſt duty or cuſtom, but to allow them free liberty

to buy or ſell, not interrupting them in any manner whatever, nor requiring any thing by way of ſillhey, mangan, or other cuſtoms of the zemindary—and the Company's agents ſhall buy and ſell the Company's goods, nor ſhall there be a broker concerned therein without the Company's conſent; and you ſhall aſſiſt them whereſoever they may make purchaſes or ſales of any commodities. Whoſoever ſhall act ſo repugnant to this order ſhall be delivered up to the diſpoſal of the Engliſh, and receive the recompence of his deeds; and if in any place a ſingle article of the Company's effects ſhall be made away with, you are to find out that very ſame, and return it to the Company, or elſe be anſwerable for the ſame yourſelves; and you ſhall cauſe to be repaid unto the Company's agents whatever demands they may have upon merchants or other people for failure of contract:—nor ſhall it be in the power of any one to moleſt their agents. Moreover, you ſhall not ſtop boats hired by them, or of their own property, on account of toll or other cuſtoms: you ſhall give credit to copies of the Company's grants atteſted by the magiſtrate, nor demand the original grants; and any one that is dependant on the Company, and ſhall deſert their bounds, you ſhall not protect or ſupport him, but deliver ſuch perſon up to the chief of their factory.—Moreover, ye ſhall not moleſt the Company's agents or people, on account of collecting the fowzdary duties, or any other cuſtoms not allowed by the government. Further, the Company have factories in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, beſides which, wherever the Company have a mind to ſet up a factory, you are to give them forty begahs of ground; and if veſſels of the Engliſh, through ſtorms of wind and rain, run aſhore in our ports or other places, and ſuffer ſhipwreck, you are to give them all aſſiſtance; take particular care of ſtranded veſſels, and deliver them as ſaved to the Company, and are not to demand a fourth part, or any thing elſe forbidden by his Majeſty. Moreover, a mint is eſtabliſhed at Calcutta, and the Company have a perpetual right to coin gold and ſilver, which may be equal in weight and fineneſs to the aſhrafees and rupees of Moorſhedabad; it is to paſs current in all his Majeſty's treaſuries.—Uſe all diligence to act ſtrictly in conformance to the herein-written; nor ſhall you annually demand a freſh charter.

Treaty with Serauje Dowla.

Firſt. Whatever rights and privileges the King has granted the Engliſh Company, in their phirmaund, and the huſbulhookums ſent from Dilly, ſhall not be diſputed or taken from them, and the immunities therein mentioned be acknowledged and ſtand good: whatever villages are given the Company by the phirmaund ſhall likewiſe be granted, notwithſtanding they have been denied by former ſubahs; the zemindars of thoſe villages not to be hurt or diſplaced without cauſe.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to the terms of the phirmaund.

Second. All goods paſſing and repaſſing through the country by land or water with Engliſh duſtucks ſhall be exempt from any tax, ſee, or impoſition, from chokeys, caulwales, zemindars, or others.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to this.

Third. All the Company's factories ſeized by the Nabob ſhall be returned—All monies, goods, and effects, belonging to the Company, their ſervants, and tenants, which have been ſeized and taken by the Nabob, ſhall be reſtored—What has been plundered and pillaged by his people, made good, by the payment of ſuch ſum of money as his juſtice ſhall think reaſonable.

Signed by the Nabob. I agree to reſtore whatever has been ſeized and taken by my orders, and accounted for in my ſiccary.

Fourth. That we have permiſſion to fortify Calcutta, in ſuch manner as we may think proper, without interruption.

Signed by the Nabob. I conſent to it.

Fifth. That we ſhall have liberty to coin ſiccas both of gold and ſilver, of equal weight and fineneſs to thoſe at Muxadavad, which ſhall paſs in the provinces.

Signed by the Nabob. I conſent to the Engliſh Company's coining their own imports of bullion and gold into ſiccas.

Sixth. That the treaty ſhall be ratified by ſigning, ſealing, and ſwearing, to abide by the articles therein contained, not only by the Nabob, but his principal officers and miniſters.

Signed by the Nabob. I ſealed and ſigned the articles before the preſence of God.

Seventh. That Admiral Charles Watſon, and Colonel Robert Clive, on the part and behalf of the Engliſh Nation, and of the Company, do agree to live in good underſtanding with the Nabob;

Nabob; to put an end to theſe troubles, and to be in friendſhip with him, while thoſe articles are performed and obſerved by the Nabob.

Signed by the Nabob.—I have ſealed and ſigned the foregoing articles upon thoſe terms: that if the Governor and Council will ſign and ſeal them with the Company's ſeal, and will ſwear to the performance on their part, I then conſent and agree to them.

Tranſlate, N°. 24. Copy of a Sannad or Charter, under Seal of his Excellency the Nawab Meer Mahomed Jaaffier Chan Behadur Mahabatt Jàng, directed to the Rajahs, Zemindars, Jaluedars, (Verbally the ſame as N°. 22.)

N°. 25. Copy of a Daſtah taken on the 20th of the Moon Dzeecaadah, the 4th Year of the Reign, under Seal of Suja ol Molk Haſſam od Dowlah Meer Mahomed Jaaffier C. Han Bahadur, Mahaabut Jung; viz.

To the Fouzdars, Zemindars, and Chokeydars, Guzrbans, and Guardians of the Roads and Paſſes, in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, this Daſtak is written.

The goods of the Engliſh Company ſhould have always a free paſſage backwards and forwards, both by land and by water, agreeable to the order of his moſt imperial Majeſty, in the provinces aforeſaid, accompanied with the daſtak of the Engliſh Company. Now alſo know it to be again eſtabliſhed and appointed: it behoves you to acknowlege the Company's duſtuck as current, and in no manner or way to impede or hinder their goods, either paſſing or repaſſing in the way, on account of collecting the hattbarah mangan, and other cuſtoms not allowed by the imperial court, but to let them paſs without taking the leaſt duty or cuſtom whatever, and without moleſting the dependants on the ſaid Company. In this matter uſing the exacteſt diligence act agreeable to herein-written.

Tranſlate, N°. 23. Copy of a Grant for a Mint, under Seal of his Excellency of Senatorial Rank, the Nawab Meer Mahomed Jaffir Can Bahadur Mahabatt Jung, from the 15th of the Moon Deccaadah, the 4th Year of his Majeſty's Reign: viz.

May their Eminencies of high rank, of illuſtrious and directorial dignity, the moſt honourable Company of Merchants of England, be the object of the imperial favour.

You have a mint eſtabliſhed in Calcutta: you the moſt honourable of merchants are to coin ſiccas, bearing the name of Calcutta, of gold and ſilver, equal in fineneſs and weight to the aſhrafees and rupees of Morſhedabad: your coin ſhall be current in the provinces Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and ſhall paſs in the imperial treaſury, nor ſhall any one ſtop or impede it becauſe of batta.

Copy Tranſlation of a Treaty between the Nabob Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn and the Company.

Meer Mahomed
Coſſim Cawn
Bahadur.

Two treaties have been written of the ſame tenor, and reciprocally exchanged; containing the articles under mentioned, between Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn Bahadur, and the Nabob Shums's Dowlah, Governor, and the reſt of the Council, for the affairs of the Engliſh Company; and during the life of Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn Bahadur, and the duration of the factories of the Engliſh Company in this country, this agreement ſhall remain in force. God is witneſs between us, that the following articles ſhall in no wiſe be infringed by either party.

Firſt Article.—The Nabob Meer Mahomed Jaffir Cawn Behadur ſhall continue in poſſeſſion of his dignities, and all affairs be tranſacted in his name, and a ſuitable income ſhall be allowed for his expences.

Second Article.—The Niabut of the ſubahdaree of Bengal, Azimabadan, and Oriſſa, ſhall be conferred by his Excellency the Nabob on Meer Mahomed Caſſim Cawn Bahadur: he ſhall be veſted with the adminiſtration of all affairs of the provinces, and after his Excellency he ſhall ſucceed to the government.

Third Article.—Betwixt us and Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn Bahadur, a firm friendſhip and union is eſtabliſhed; his enemies are our enemies, and his friends are our friends.

Fourth

Fourth Article.—The Europeans and Jolingas of the Engliſh army ſhall be ready to aſſiſt the Nabob Meer Mahomed Caſſim Cawn Bahadur in the management of all affairs, and in all affairs dependant on him they ſhall exert themſelves to the utmoſt of their abilities.

Fifth Article.—For all charges of the Company, and of the ſaid army and proviſions for the field, &c. the lands of Burdwand, Midnapore, and Chittagong, ſhall be aſſigned, and ſunnuds for that purpoſe ſhall be written and granted. The Company is to ſtand to all loſſes, and receive all the profits of thoſe three countries; and we will demand no more than the three aſſignments aforeſaid.

Sixth Article.—One half of the Chunam produced at Silkett for three years ſhall be purchaſed by the gomaſtahs of the Company, from the people of the government, at the cuſtomary rate of that place. The tenants and inhabitants of thoſe diſtricts ſhall receive no injury.

Seventh Article.—The balance of the former tuncaw ſhall be paid according to the riſt-bundic agreed upon with the Roy Royan. The jewels which *have pledged* ſhall be received back again.

Eighth Article.—We will not allow the tenants of the ſircar, to ſettle in the lands of the Engliſh Company, neither the tenants of the Company be allowed to ſettle in the lands of the ſircar.

Ninth Article.—We will give no protection to the dependants of the ſircar, in the lands or in the factories of the Company, neither ſhall any protection be given to the dependants of the Company in the lands of the ſircar; and whoſoever ſhall fly to either party for refuge ſhall be given up.

Tenth Article.—The meaſures for war or peace with the Shahzada, and raiſing ſupplies of money, and the concluding both thoſe points, ſhall be weighed in the ſcale of reaſon; and whatever is judged expedient ſhall be put in execution; and it ſhall be ſo contrived by the joint council, that he be removed from this country, nor ſuffered to get any footing in it, whether there be peace with the Shahzada or not. Our agreement with Meer Mahomed Cawn Bahadur we will (by the grace of God) inviolably obſerve, as long as the Engliſh Company's factories continue in this country. Dated the 17th of the month Seffer, in the year 1174 of the Nejra.

Sign Manual of Meer Mahomed Coſſim Cawn.

This was ſealed on the 18th of the month Seffer, in the eleven hundred and ſeventy-fourth year of the Nejra; and the propoſals are agreed to.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Fort William. Dated the 26th February 1702-3.

You muſt inſiſt upon it as our right, that we be cuſtom-free in Bengal, Patna, and Orixa, on the payment of 3000 rupees a year; that our duſtucks paſs in all places; that our grant of Calcutta and adjacent towns be continued; and that all the other privileges and advantages obtained by the old Company formerly, or by them or the new Company of late, be enjoyed by this United Company, according to the true meaning and full intent of the ſaid grants; and we would have the ſervants of each Company do all they can to keep us in quiet enjoyment of the ſaid privileges, by repreſenting to the government, you are now the Engliſh national Company, juſtly intitled unto thoſe privileges.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Fort William. Dated the 2d March, 1702-3.

Our privileges in Bengal of being cuſtom-free, except the yearly acknowlegement of 300 rupees, are ſo eſſential a property to this Company, and of ſuch great importance to us, that it requires the utmoſt ſteady care and fidelity to preſerve them: it was an expenſive war, a ſtoppage of trade, and other accidents, that retrieved them after they had been left chiefly by the feuds among our ſervants, who, to juſtify their own quarrels, expoſed the unfaithfulneſs of their chief to the government; that he covered the Moors, and other nations, goods by our duſtucks, and thereby defrauded the Nabob and other governors of their duties. To prevent the like evil for the future, we order you to cauſe a common ſeal or chop to be made, for the ſealing of duſtucks, and other public uſes, with ſuch words or motto as you ſhall judge moſt proper; which ſeal or chop we would have remain in the cuſtody of the ſecretary, under the keys or ſeals of our two chairmen, not to be uſed but in the preſence of them both; and the ſecretary muſt atteſt and regiſter all duſtucks which you grant, and which we hereby direct ſhall be granted for Engliſh people's goods, and no others.

Copy 72 Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to Fort William. Dated the 4th February 1772.

Although you have frequently been warned by us againſt all manner of illicit trade, that our affairs might not be embarraſſed with the country government, and yet many evils have we frequently

quently ſuffered thereby, yet you acquaint us, that the ſalt was clandeſtinely carried up in the fleet to Patna, laying the whole blame on the military officers, aſſuring us it was without your privity.

Copy of the 148 Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to Fort William. Dated 3d March 1758.

We therefore order, That the cuſtom maſter do in future keep the regiſter of duſtucks, and that no duſtuck be granted, but on oath made by the party demanding the ſame, that the goods or merchandize ſpecified be and are on his own proper account; and that he does not directly or indirectly therein cover the property of any of the natives of Bengal, free merchants, or any others, excepting our inveſtment contractors bringing down our goods, (but not their own) and our covenanted ſervants; that the King, or Moors government be not defrauded of their juſt duties and revenues; that the ſaid oath be tendered by our cuſtom maſter, who ſhall atteſt the ſame at one corner of the duſtuck before it is preſented to the Preſident for his ſigning and ſealing; and in all reſpects, when it does not *claſh* with our preſent plan of regulations, you are to adhere ſtrictly to the rules and orders laid in our letters, per Somerſet and Pelham, dated the 17th June 1748.

Copy of 34, 37, 38, and 39 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 17th June 1748.

34. As many diſputes ariſe with the country government, from a licentious uſe of the privileges granted to the Company, particularly by giving our duſtucks to ſuch who are not intitled to have them, either by virtue of the Mogul's phirmaund, or by any authority from us, or by the abuſe of them, even by ſuch as may have a right to them; and as we cannot with reaſon expect to have our affairs carried on in a quiet amicable manner, while our ſervants are committing or conniving at ſuch mal-practices, to the prejudice of the royal revenues, and the ſupport of clandeſtine traders, which muſt manifeſtly be hurtful to the true intereſt of the Company; we ſtrictly enjoin you to take care, that for the future all abuſes of that nature be effectually prevented; and that we may have cognizance of all duſtucks granted, and the uſes that are made of them, we order that on receipt of this no duſtuck be granted to any perſon, but on their application for the ſame by requeſt in writing to the Council; in which the perſon making ſuch requeſt ſhall ſet forth the quantity and ſorts of goods intended to be imported, and from what place they are to come, and ſhall declare for whoſe account they are; and the Council finding ſuch requeſts conſiſtent with the rules of the Company, are to order duſtucks to be made out and delivered accordingly: minutes are to be made in a book, kept for that purpoſe, of all ſuch requeſts, diſtinguiſhing which are granted, and which are rejected; copies thereof muſt be ſent home, at leaſt yearly, ſigned by the Governor and Council; and a book ſhall be kept, in which every duſtuck taken out ſhall be regiſtered, whether it be for the Company's account or for account of others; the particulars of each duſtuck ſhall be entered on one ſide of the folio of this book, with the perſon's name for whoſe account it is, and a blank ſhall be left on the other ſide of the folio, oppoſite ſuch entry, for the purpoſes hereafter mentioned.

37. And that there may be no doubt as to the perſons who are to enjoy the benefit of the duſtuck, it is hereby declared, that all goods imported and exported by the Company, or for their account, are to be ſent with duſtucks, and every merchant who contracts with the Company, ſhall be intitled to a duſtuck, for importing whatever he may have ſo contracted for; but not for the exportation of the ſame, unleſs in caſe of damages, in order to ſend them back to the aurungs to have the goods new waſhed or repaired; all merchants who buy goods of the Company to ſend into the country for ſale, ſhall be intitled to duſtucks for that purpoſe, for which goods only beſides them, our immediate covenant ſervants are to be intitled to duſtucks, and them under theſe regulations; but every perſon making a falſe declaration, on requeſting for a duſtuck, or importing or exporting goods, with duſtucks, otherwiſe than allowed as above, or proſtituting the duſtuck in any way whatſoever than it is aſked for, ſhall be immediately diſmiſſed from our ſervice, and ſent home; and every merchant, dealing with the Company, who ſhall commit any fraud in the duſtuck, ſhall be excluded from having any further dealings with the Company, directly or indirectly; and all the goods imported or exported in fraudulent manner, ſhall be deemed unlicenſed trade, and ſhall be confiſcated accordingly; one third to the Company, one third to the informer, and the remaining third to the regiſter of the duſtucks.

38. And in caſes where the Company's affairs are involved with the country government, by means of any abuſes of the duſtucks, the perſon who ſhall have committed ſuch abuſe ſhall be anſwerable for the ſame to the country government out of their eſtate; or if a native, ſhall be delivered up to country government, as a perſon having forfeited the protection of the Company, if he do not make ſuch ſatisfaction as may immediately extricate the Company's affairs.

39. Every perſon dealing in Bengal ſalt, or any other reſerved or prohibited commodity, contrary to the known eſtabliſhed laws of the country, ſhall be dealt with as if he or they had committed a fraud in the duſtucks; but in caſe the country government pretend, by any new laws or prohibitions, to encroach on the privileges granted to, and hitherto enjoyed by, the Company, and thoſe under our protection, you are at all events to reſiſt ſuch unjuſt attempts; and if you cannot procure relief by amicable means, you are to obtain it by making uſe of all

the force you have, as we wish on no account to submit to any innovation, which may, either at present, or hereafter, disgrace the Company, or be prejudicial to his interests.

Copy of the 66, 67, 68 and 69 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 25th March, 1757.

It is with much concern we observe, in your detail of transactions with the country government, that every circumstance and opportunity affords pretensions for exactions; it is impossible for us to mark out any precise rules for your conduct in general, we can only say, that you are to be zealous in preserving our phirmaund rights and privileges; and when any sums of money are demanded, or any oppressions endeavoured to be laid on our trade, or otherwise, that you will obviate or settle them upon the best terms you can; in doing which, our great dependance must be placed on your sense and care.

Among many other unreasonable demands, *that made* upon you for the Cotmah's effects is of a very pernicious nature, as it tends to render our protection of no effect, and subjecting the English flag to contempt. We find this affair was not brought to an issue upon the coming away of your last advices; but we hope your steadiness and resolution will disappoint *Hookumbeng* in his oppressive and lucrative views, and confirm the rich natives, who reside in the Company's limits, that their persons and effects will be secure.

A further instance of very unfair proceedings appears in the affair of the Chekeys; for after you thought our trade was sufficiently and effectually secured from their oppressions, by ample grants from the Nabob, a pretence was set up, of an equivalent to be made for those leased out under the Packowtrah Drogha, amounting to about twelve thousand rupees, which we find was left to Mr. Watts, and his council, to settle with *Hookumbeg*, with a caution, and indeed a very proper one, that it should not be made a precedent for the like demand from his successors; we hope to hear that this affair has been settled accordingly; and here we must add, that, as many of these oppressions take their rise from great abuse in the dustucks, we shall depend upon your regulating them, in such a manner as will most effectually prevent all pretences for complaint in future.

We observe, upon *Hookumbeg*'s making a peremptory demand for sicca rupees 2300, on account of the sugar purchasers, you had empowered the gentlemen of Cossimbuzar to pay him that sum; this is another instance of oppression, which is now become in a manner annual; you must use your best endeavours to prevent its being established as a custom; and we do expect that you will take care to collect, from these persons who have the benefit of that trade, all impositions it is the occasion of.

Copy of the 102 Paragraph of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 1st April 1760.

The real grievances and clogs to the fair trader are well known to you all; those removed, every merchant would chearfully submit to the moderate duties we have directed to be levied; and this is confessed by the principal subscriber to the merchants letter now in England. The hardships we mean, are the gross and iniquitous abuses that spring from the power of dustucks, they being confined to our covenant servants; trade has been subjected to very heavy impositions; it is a well known fact, can be proved abroad, and also in England, that our chiefs at subordinates gain full twenty per cent. upon the goods they provide the private trader, and often exclusive of commission, so that the merchant carries his goods to market at an advance perhaps of 25 per cent. upon their value in Bengal; the black merchants they apply to our junior servants, and for valuable considerations receive their goods covered with our servants names; even a writer trades in this manner for many thousands, when at the same time he has often not real credit for an hundred rupees; for the truth of these assertions we need only appeal to yourselves; this then is the stream from whence have flown numberless mischiefs, perhaps the capital cause of your late dreadful misfortunes. To fetter trade is opposite to all good policy; and we believe Calcutta the only colony where manufactories are locked up from the merchant; we therefore must, we will have a reform in this important branch if it is evident; the expence of that phirmaund privilege for commerce is ruined by those unfair practices; the merchant can bear no more, and fearful to speak out, demurs to our just duties, and ascribes his inability to remote causes; the government annually defrauded of immense duties, and even their subjects property covered by the Company's name, must ever look upon us a vile faithless people, strangers to honour and (we must now add) gratitude; such are the consequences resulting from the abuse of a privilege obtained at a very heavy expence, for our particular advantage. In the regulating of this branch, we wish to maintain a respectable character, secure the government from being injured, and preserve to the fair trader such freedom and benefits, as are common to all our other settlements, and which he certainly has a right to. It is not in our power to obviate all difficulties, but however, points out the remedy, to fix trade upon an equitable basis.—He may depend upon receiving signal marks of our favour; perhaps the Nabob may find it his interest to settle for a certain annual sum upon the general trade, his own subjects included, which will be farming the commercial duties dependant upon Calcutta. This

scheme

ſcheme muſt, we apprehend, anſwer every good purpoſe; it removes all cauſes of contention with the government, duſtucks will be aboliſhed, the merchant will gladly employ, and chearfully allow our ſervants a reaſonable commiſſion, and intereſt for the proviſion of his goods; but if more than five per cent. commiſſion is charged, upon complaint he is to be redreſſed, and the Company will be reimburſed the annual ſum they may pay for farming the general duties, by an additional impoſt of two or more per cent. on the goods brought down by Europeans, and a larger duty on what may be imported by the Indians; and if the amount ſhould exceed the annual ſum ſtipulated with the Nabob, we are willing to add the ſurplus to our Preſident's ſmall emoluments: If this plan ſhould take place, let us view the trader's ſituation; he is relieved from the preſent exaction, from twenty to twenty-five per cent. he will pay five per cent. commiſſion on his goods, two per cent. to the duties farmed, and four per cent. cuſtoms, and he will therefore export his goods from nine to fourteen per cent. advantage. If you can form a better ſcheme, adopt it; but remember, at all events we ſhall expect the duſtucks are put upon ſuch a juſt footing, as to ſecure the government their duties, and enable the merchant to pay our cuſtoms.

Copy of the 110 to 118 Paragraphs of the General Letter to the Court of Directors, dated the 16th January 1761.

110. The obſervations concerning the privilege of duſtucks, contained in the 101 and 102 paragraphs of your commands, dated the 1ſt of April 1760, have been conſidered, with that attention which ſo earneſt an injunction from your Honours ought, and always will, excite in us: we beg leave to aſſure you, that we have conſidered it with minds free from any view to our own private intereſts; and that, if the regulation propoſed by your Honours, or any other that we could imagine or have been informed of, had appeared capable of putting trade upon a better footing, for all traders in general, without prejudicing the Company's inveſtment, we would moſt readily have endeavoured to obtain the Nabob's conſent.

111. Your Honours, perhaps, have not been ſufficiently informed of the difficulty that is continually met with, at moſt of ſubordinate ſettlements and aurungs, in procuring a ſufficiency of cloaths for the Company's inveſtment; *I would* indeed be abſolutely impoſſible ever to fulfil your orders, were there not many reſtrictions in favour of the Company at the ſubordinates; the gentlemen in the ſervice are forbid to make any purchaſes for themſelves, until the quantity required for the Company is ſecured; the gentlemen at Calcutta are not permitted to ſend gomaſtahs to purchaſe at the aurungs dependant on any of the ſubordinates, nor the gentlemen of one ſubordinate to make purchaſes at another. It is the ſame with the outaurungs dependant on Calcutta; none of the gentlemen in the Company's ſervice are permitted to ſend gomaſtahs to any place where there is a gomaſtah purchaſing any goods for the Company, without giving notice to the Committee of Aurungs, and getting a letter from them to the Company's gomaſtah; who is to take care that he does not interfere in any thing prejudicial to the Company's inveſtments. Theſe reſtrictions are calculated to keep the weavers confined, as much as poſſible, to the Company's ſortments; which we believe would fall extremely ſhort, as well as grow continually dearer, if the free merchants had the privilege of duſtuck equally with the Company's ſervants; the great number of purchaſers at the aurung muſt of courſe make the price of labour riſe; purchaſers alſo, who having no dependance on the Company, would not willingly ſubmit to any regulations we might make, nor think it juſt that any preference ſhould be given to the Company; the trade would ſuffer ſo much by the number of *competitors*, that we think the effect of ſuch a change would be very difficult from what your Honours propoſe; and that, inſtead of being a relief to trade, it would be a great hurt to the merchants in general, and to the intereſt of the Company in particular.

112. We flatter ourſelves, that your Honours will, for the reaſons beforementioned, approve of our not endeav*couring from the* Nabob, his acceptance of a certain yearly ſum to be paid by the Company, in lieu of the duties now collected by the government from the merchants of Calcutta; ſo that all without exception might have the privilege of duſtucks; but we believe, if we had found it ſo conſiſtent with the Company's intereſt to put the trade upon that footing, the Nabob's aſſent could not have been obtained. The Preſident when at Murſhadabad aſked, Whether ſuch a propoſal would be agreeable? But far from approving it, he ſeemed much alarmed; ſenſible of the great detriment it would be to the revenues of Houghly, which are made up chiefly of the cuſtoms upon goods going to, and from, Calcutta.

113. The ſum to be paid the Nabob in lieu thereof, in caſe ſuch an agreement had taken place, would have been ſo conſiderable, that the duſtuck duty to be levied here for the Company's reimburſement, muſt have been a very heavy addition to your other cuſtoms; nor is it to be doubted, but thoſe merchants who complain now of the preference given to the Company's ſervants, in reſpect of duſtucks, would have complained yet louder of this additional duty.

114. Thoſe gentlemen who have ſigned the letter referred to by your Honours, have for the moſt part not the leaſt reaſon to complain of unreaſonable dealings in the Company's ſervants; ſome of them who have employed Company's ſervants to provide their goods have had them at very moderate

moderate rates; but in general they have been unwilling to make any contracts, and have choſen rather to take the chance of the market, which has proved ſometimes favourable to the ſeller, ſometimes to the buyer; at this time goods made at Coſſimbuzar yield little or no profit here, while goods made at Dacca and Luckypore will yield *tenty* twenty-five or thirty per cent. and theſe laſt, five or ſix years ago, were ſo extremely low here, that ſeveral of the gentlemen of the Dacca factory ſuffered much in their fortunes, by providing them, as they could not get their prime coſt; this riſk the Company's ſervant runs; it is the fair chance of an open market, with the free merchants for the moſt part, as we have before obſerved, prefer to contracts, and they have no more right to complain when the price in the market happens to be high, than the ſeller; when it happens to be low, when they themſelves bring goods to ſell from foreign markets, they are not wanting in their endeavours to ſell them for as high a price as they can.

115. Such therefore have no juſt reaſon of complaint, as they have not contracted or endeavoured to contract with Company's ſervants; but there are ſome, whom we underſtand have had ſufficient grounds for complaint, we mean thoſe who formerly had concerns under the Governor and Council in the freight ſhips; in which we have been informed it was a practice for each gentleman of the Council to load his own proportion in goods, and theſe goods every one charged at what price he thought proper: the Captain and Supercargo, depending on the Governor and Council to provide their goods, were obliged to take their concern in a cargo made up after that manner; and no wonder the voyages turned out extremely ill, an unreaſonable profit having been made on the goods before they left the port.

116. But we beg leave to aſſure your Honours, that the gentlemen, now concerned jointly with us, received a very different treatment; ſuch goods as are bought at market here, not having been contracted for before, are bought on the beſt terms poſſible, by managers appointed out of the concerned, and no profit of any ſort charged upon them here; ſuch goods as are provided from the aurungs by ourſelves, or by contract with the gentlemen at the ſubordinates, are delivered at ſo moderate a premium as barely to anſwer the intereſt and riſk of providing them, with a ſmall conſideration for the time and charges ſaved by means of the duſtuck; an advantage which was undoubtedly intended to be reſerved to the Company's ſervants, when the indulgence of the duſtuck was granted them; the calculation of the advance propoſed to be put upon the goods provided at the ſeveral ſubordinates and aurungs, in proportion to the diſtance and the riſk, is entered on the minutes of the Conſultation of the 24th of November, to which we beg leave to refer you.

117. That the abuſe of this indulgence, formerly too common a practice, we have reaſon to think is but a juſt reproach; but we are equally convinced, that no ſuch practice has been followed ſince the attention given to this matter laſt year, and the oath preſcribed to be taken by all who have the benefit of this privilege; we doubt not but this ſolemn tye, added to the regard which the gentlemen in your ſervice have for their own reputation, will be ſufficient to make them abhor ſo diſhonourable a practice; if any there be, who, ſtrangers to theſe ſentiments, ſhall venture to abuſe an indulgence for which they ought to be thankful, we ſhall hold them unworthy of your ſervice, and make a ſevere example of all who ſhall be diſcovered. The Preſident will be particularly obſervant of the applications made to him for duſtucks, and he has already recommended to the Nabob, to cauſe all his guards, at the ſeveral choukeys, or watching places, upon the river, to be more ſtrict in the examination of boats, and to ſeize all who ſhall be found with Engliſh colours without a duſtuck; this is an impoſition often practiſed by Portugueſe, Armenians, and the country people, to defraud the government of their cuſtoms; and through the indolence or knavery of the chowkeys has doubtleſs ſucceeded very frequently, and been the cauſe in great meaſure of the complaints that have been put undeſervedly to the account of the gentlemen here.

118. We ſhall leave this ſubject with aſſuring you, that we ſhall acquieſce, without murmuring, in the loſs of the advantage of the duſtuck, if your Honours, after conſidering all that we have taken the liberty to ſay, ſhall continue to think ſuch an alteration would be for the benefit of trade in general, and conſiſtent with the Company's intereſt; at the ſame time, we cannot help giving it as our opinion, that the Company's ſervant has a very reaſonable pretenſion to ſome indulgence in the matters of trade over the free merchant, conſidering that the latter has his whole time to apply to the management of his private concerns, while the former is employed for the moſt part in attending his duty to the Company.

Copy of the 43 and 44 Paragraphs of the Company's General Letter to Fort William, dated the 19th February 1762.

By the directions we gave in our letter of the 1ſt April 1760, we meant, that the Nabob ſhould not be defrauded of his duties by an abuſe of the duſtuck, nor private traders oppreſſed—but as it appears, by your advices of the 16th January 1761, that the farming the duties of the Nabob, and the other methods we have pointed out, are not practicable, we muſt therefore acquieſce in their not being carried into execution; at the ſame time, we repeat and enforce what

what we mentioned in our ſaid letter, that at all events the duſtucks are to be put upon ſuch a footing as to ſecure the government their duties, and enable the merchants to pay our cuſtoms.

It has been intimated, that ſome of our late ſervants had engroſſed the ſale of beetle and ſalt, to their own great emolument, but highly prejudicial to the intereſt of the Nabob; as ſuch meaſures tend greatly to the embroiling our affairs, as well as being injurious to the community, we enjoin youto take the utmoſt care, that neither our ſervants, or any perſons reſiding under our protection, have any concern in ſuch farms for the future.

Due attention having been paid to the perufal of theſe ſeveral papers and extracts, the ſeveral members of the board are deſired to give in writing, next Tueſday, their ſentiments of the Preſident's letter to the Nabob, conſidered with all the *foreſaid* papers, and alſo on the following queſtions;

1ſt. Whether, by the phirmaund and ſubſequent treaties, we have a right to trade in every article, whether for foreign or inland trade, duty free?

2d. Whether any duties ought to be paid to the country government on ſalt, beetle nut, tobacco, or any other articles?

3d. Whether the Company's duſtucks ſhall be for the future granted with ſuch articles?

Of late, the trade of ſalt, from Calcutta up the country, has been carried on by the Engliſh inhabitants in general, who having firſt paid the duties at Houghly, and having got the phouſdar's duſtuck or rowanna, had then a paſſport or certificate from the Preſident to accompany it.

4th. Whether certificates ſhould in future be granted to any but Company's ſervants?

5th. Whether the Engliſh gomaſtahs, in any parts of the three provinces, ſhall be ſubject in any manner to the controul of the officers of the country government, and how far?

6th. If not, how are we to regulate the diſputes that may happen between them and the country government, and particularly in thoſe parts where we have no factory?

Received another letter from Luckypore, dated the 16th inſtant, acquainting us of further extraordinary acts of violence and inſolence committed by Aga Nazam Comar Ally and Buddul Cawn: the ſame having been read at the board;

Agreed, we write an anſwer thereto, directing the gentlemen at Luckypore to ſeize the perſons of Aga Nazam Comar Ally and Buddul Cawn, and ſend them down to Calcutta, that we may either puniſh them ourſelves or inſiſt upon the Nabob's doing it; that on this ſervice, they will take care to ſend force enough to execute it with a certainty of ſucceſs, and for that purpoſe rather wait for a reinforcement from Chittagong, than engage in the enterprize with an inſufficient number; that in caſe the detachment ordered from Chittagong to Dacca ſhould not have paſſed Luckypore before the receipt of this letter, they may direct the officer to execute this ſervice before he proceeds thither; or, if any part of it lies nearer and more convenient to the diſtricts of Chittagong, they may write to them to carry ſuch part into execution from thence.

As a full board was intended to have been ſummoned to conſult on the ſubject of the late regulations, Mr. Johnſon moves, that the opinion of the abſent members, Meſſieurs Ellis, M'Guire, and Verelſt, be alſo aſked on this ſubject, and the papers relative thereto be forwarded to them; which he thinks will obviate the objection made to this proceeding, of ſummoning the abſent members to the board on affairs of ſuch conſequence, as it ſtands minuted by the Preſident, the 1ſt February.

This Motion being approved; Ordered, that the ſecretary do prepare copies of the ſeveral papers, to be forwarded to the above mentioned gentlemen as ſoon as poſſible.

No. 5.

Fort William Conſultation, 1ſt March 1763.

AGREEABLY to the order of council, the 22d February, the ſeveral members now deliver in their opinions in the queſtions therein propoſed.

Ordered, They be here entered in the following manner:

Firſt, Mr. Watts is of the opinion in an anſwer to the queſtions propoſed laſt council day; viz.

That by the phirmaund and huſbubkookkums the Engliſh Eaſt India Company have an undoubted right to trade in any articles produced in the Indoſtan empire, either for foreign or inland trade, and that duſtucks ought to be given with any articles; and that Meer Mahomed Jaffier Ally Cawn, in his treaty, has very particularly confirmed the ſame, for the provinces under the ſubahdarry of Bengal.

Secondly, That duties ought not to be paid to the country government on ſalt, beetle nut, tobacco, or any articles that have a duſtuck with them.

Thirdly, That duſtucks be granted with ſuch articles for the future.

Fourthly, That no paſſports or certificates ſhould be granted to Company's ſervants or others; but that ſalt *have* a duſtuck with it, if the ſole property of a Company's ſervant, but not to other Engliſh inhabitants.

Fifthly, That the Preſident, in his letter to the Nabob, has given up the privilege which the Company enjoyed by the phirmaund, and therefore he continued in the ſame ſentiments as in the conſultation of the 17th January.

Sixthly, That ſubjecting our Engliſh gomaſtahs to the country government would entirely prevent us from carrying on our trade, nor is there any neceſſity for any regulations in thoſe parts where we have an Engliſh factory; but in the diſtant parts of the provinces ſomething is neceſſary to be eſtabliſhed, as well to prevent our gomaſtahs from being guilty of oppreſſions to the country people, as to keep the officers of the government from behaving in the manner they have lately done; that this point can only be ſettled between the Nabob and us.

Mr. Marriott is of opinion, That the Preſident ought to have waited till he could have received an anſwer from the Board, before he wrote the letter to the Nabob, as no paragraph of the Board's letters to the Preſident appear to authorize him to conclude a treaty without their approbation, unleſs their willingneſs to have affairs ſettled with the Nabob on a ſolid baſis, with the ſecurity of our rights and privileges, be conſtrued in that ſenſe, which he does not imagine was the intention of the board.

That in regard to the treaty itſelf, it differs far from our phirmaund and ſunwads, granted in conſequence of our treaties with Seer Rajah Dowla and Jaffier Ally Cawn, particularly in giving up our right in granting duſtucks for the inland trade; tho' ſome few articles may have been denied us trading in by the country government, unleſs we paid duties on them; notwithſtanding our honourable maſters ſtrongly recommended the being jealous of our phirmaund privileges; and alſo in ſubmitting our gomaſtahs and dependants to be under the government's juriſdiction, and liable on every occaſion to be called before their courts, which is greatly derogatory to the Engliſh name, and muſt take from us that ſway we ought to have in the country, and without which no buſineſs will be able to be carried on; and will greatly prejudice not only the quality and quantity, but alſo enhance the price of every article of the Company's inveſtment; that ſo far from ſubmitting our gomaſtahs and dependants to the government's courts of judicature, our phirmaund expreſsly orders all our dependants that are indebted to us and run away, to be immediately delivered up to us; and that the government's people ſhould give us all aſſiſtance they can on ſuch an occaſion, in order to recover our demands.

That in regard to exchange of money, as we have an undoubted right to coin ſiccas from our phirmaund and ſunwads, we ought to inſiſt on thoſe we coin ſhould paſs; but to obviate any loſs that might ariſe by batta on ſiccas of a different mint at another place, we ſhould get ſtamps of the ſeveral mints where we have occaſion to ſend money and coin with thoſe ſtamps accordingly.

For theſe reaſons I entirely diſſent to the treaty, the ill conſequences of which muſt now appear too plain to every one; it being a dangerous ſyſtem to truſt the government's people with ſo great power; their character of being rapacious and tyrannical would, I thought, have been well known to every one: I am further of opinion the ſaid letter of the Preſident's to the Nabob ſhould be demanded back, or hereafter bad conſequences may ariſe from it.

In reply to the different articles propoſed to the Board, Mr. Marriott is of opinion, That by the phirmaund and ſubſequent treaties, we have a right to trade in foreign and inland articles of trade; if a direct aſſertion is a ſufficient proof, and not one ſingle article of trade prohibited us by the phirmaund, &c. That the government denying us to trade in a few articles, without we pay duties on them, is uſurping an authority they formerly were forbid, as by the tenor of the phirmaund it appears that further uſurpation and limiting our trade, were attempted by Aliverdi Khan's miniſters, in reſpect of paying duties on ſugar, and which the Company remonſtrate much againſt, and deſire we will take care theſe things may not be brought into a precedent; which ſhews the opinion they entertained of thoſe encroachments; and by their ſeveral regulations and orders concerning duſtucks, it plainly appears they only meant their ſervants ſhould not lower any black merchants goods, or others that had not the privilege of a duſtuck, and by that means defraud the government of the duties they would have otherwiſe collected on the ſaid merchants goods, which in caſe of being detected might have been made a plea for ſtopping the Company's buſineſs and imbroiling their affairs.

That in conſequence of the government's collecting a duty on ſalt, which we for the moſt part have acquieſced in, a duty ſhould be paid them at one place, and a ſtated ſum for each hundred maunds at the rate of the Moore merchants pay, and the ſalt paſs with the Company's duſtuck; more particularly as it is the produce of their own juggere, and the collector of the ſaid duties receipt for the ſame; after which the boats not to be detained at any gaut or chowkey, further than to give the chowkeydar time to take a copy of our duſtuck: that as the Company's duſtucks have been granted for beetle nut and tobacco they are articles we ſhould not give up, but continue the Company's duſtuck for thoſe articles accordingly: that our acquieſcing in paying duties on ſalt, ought to be looked upon as a conceſſion on our parts; as the demanding them is certainly an infringement of our phirmaund privileges; but as other ſubahs have received them, the Nabob has cuſtom to plead for his receiving them alſo; and as we have ſupported him in all his ancient privileges, we ought to continue this to him, that it might not be detrimental to his revenues.

That

That in granting a certificate to Engliſh inhabitants trading in ſalt for what they purchaſe, after paying the government's duties, he can perceive no bad conſequence attending it, as this trade interferes not with any branch of the Company's; and therefore thinks the Preſident ſhould grant them to thoſe who are not covenanted ſervants.

That the ſubjecting our gomaſtahs to the controul of the officers of the country government muſt, he conceives, be attended with the worſt of conſequences, as it is giving up one of our phirmaund privileges, which muſt make us eſteemed very light in the eyes of the generality of people, and conſequently treated with contempt by them, and be the means of depriving our gomaſtahs of the influence neceſſary for carrying on the leaſt buſineſs; that in order to prevent our gomaſtahs from making a bad uſe of their authority, and injuring or diminiſhing the government's revenues, or interfering the leaſt in them, this being one of the chief articles of complaint againſt our gomaſtahs, they ſhould be again poſitively forbid holding lands, villages, gunges, &c. of the government, and an immediate example made of thoſe that diſobey, and then no other matters of diſpute can ariſe but in thoſe of trade; when the party injured ſhould apply for redreſs to the chief of the neareſt Engliſh factory, who, no doubt, is inveſted with authority ſufficient to make the gomaſtah complained againſt, appear and anſwer to the complaint, which if appearing true, and a few ſevere examples made on the gomaſtahs, would, I flatter myſelf, in a ſhort time have the deſired effect, and no injuſtice be committed by Engliſh gomaſtahs in future.

Mr. Hay's.

My reaſons for joining with other members of the Board, preſent the 17th January, in paſſing the cenſure on the Preſident, minuted on the Conſultation of that day, are, That by the treaty or written ſecurity that the Governor paſſed to the Nabob, the principal rights and privileges of the Engliſh Company, granted them by the King's phirmaund and huſbulhookums from Dilley, confirmed and fully explained by the treaties with Serajah Dowla and Meer Jaffier Cawn, and enjoyed ſince thoſe treaties almoſt in full, are given up in full, without one ſingle advantage gained by the Company; but, on the contrary, the total loſs of the Engliſh credit and reputation in theſe provinces, which has been greatly declining theſe two years paſt, was the viſible conſequence of this agreement, to every one who ſaw it and were the leaſt acquainted with the nature of the country people; and it now grieves me that the wiſeſt regulations, and the moſt ſteady conduct of this Board, will not be able to prevent the immediate bad effects of this ill-concerted and unauthorized proceeding of Mr. Vanſittart, as too plainly appears from the letters received from the ſubordinates, and the general complaints of all our agents and gomaſtahs; which ſhew there is almoſt every where a ſtop to our great incumbrances on our buſineſs, and that our ſervants are particularly ill-uſed and oppreſſed.

In conſidering the arguments for and againſt the preſent treaty entered into with the Nabob by the Preſident, it is abſolutely neceſſary to the forming a true judgment on the affair, that the unjuſt methods uſed in the country courts of juſtice, as well as the methods practiſed by the country merchants in conducting their affairs, ſhould be continually in your mind.

The impoſſibility of carrying on buſineſs when ſubjected to the country courts, I think muſt appear plain to every one; when it is conſidered, that for all ſums of money recovered in them you are obliged to pay, beſides the expences of the court, a chout, or 25 per cent. on the money recovered; which if the Engliſh do not ſubmit to pay, it will always be the intereſt of the zemindars to decide againſt them; this I only mention as one of the numberleſs grievances we ſhould ſuffer, if ſubjected to their authority; the country merchants are ſenſible of the impoſſibility of carrying on buſineſs under ſuch diſadvantages, and are therefore obliged to buy the protection of ſome perſon of authority in the government, if their own influence is not ſufficient; which ſets them above the reach of the lower jemadars of the country, protects them from the violence of all, and at the ſame time gives them a kind of judicial authority, ſo far as to confine the weavers and pecars when they cannot recover their balances from them otherwiſe; this being well underſtood, I imagine, was the principal reaſon for the Company's being at ſo great an expence in procuring their phirmaund, and huſbulhookums; which exempt the Company from thoſe inconveniencies, and likewiſe of the great care that was taken to preſerve them in their full force by the treaties with Surajah Dowla and Meer Jaffier Cawn.

Before I come to conſider the different articles of the treaty, it is neceſſary to remark, That the Governor's arguing, both in his letters and minutes, in ſupport of this tranſaction, is on a ſuppoſition, that the greateſt enormities have been, and are, committed by the Engliſh gomaſtahs throughout the country, to the great detriment of the Nabob's revenues and government; but that this has not been the caſe will, I think, plainly appear, from the ſeveral complaints made againſt them, being no further ſupported than by the aſſertion of thoſe by whom made, and whoſe intereſt it was to make complaints of that kind, as ſome excuſe for their non-payment of what was demanded of them; when, if there was any foundation of theſe complaints, it was ſo much in their power, and ſo agreeable to the preſent government and to the Preſident that they ſhould be proved, that they could never have wanted means to have done it; and likewiſe by the numberleſs oppreſſions that our gomaſtahs and people have ſuffered throughout

out the country for many months paſt; for it is not to be conceived, that people treated in the manner they have been, could have it in their power to be guilty of thoſe extravagant violences and enormities which they are repreſented have been by Mr. Vanſittart. This much premiſed, I ſhall now conſider Mr. Vanſittart's written ſecurity or obligation to the Nabob, article by article.

In the firſt, Mr. Vanſittart has given up the right which the Company have, by their phirmaund, huſbulhookums, and ſubſequent treaties, of granting duſtucks, except for ſhip merchandize; laid a tax of 9 per cent. on all other traffick; and, in a manner, acknowlege that the Engliſh do carry on their trade by force or violence, extortion, or unfair dealing.

I think the Board could never have juſtified themſelves for giving up the Company's privileges in this manner; and of courſe that Mr. Vanſittart, unauthorized as he was to enter into any treaty, could have no right to do it; but ſuppoſe it otherwiſe, How was it to be determined which were and which were not ſhip merchandize? Mr. Vanſittart indeed, in a ſubſequent article, has left that to be determined by thoſe whoſe intereſt it muſt be to determine them to be not ſo. In the arguments uſed for the tax of 9 per cent. on the trade from one part of the country to another, it is throughout inſinuated, that this is leſs than what has been uſually paid; and Mr. Vanſittart ſays, That on all the trade of this kind that he has carried on in ſalt, &c. he has paid the country duties; but from my own knowledge, as well as enquiry, I have reaſon to think, that of the innumerable articles traded in in this way, only ſalt and tobacco have paid any, the former of which, by far the moſt conſiderable, I believe laſt year on a medium did not pay above 3 per cent. although we ſubmitted to pay the eſtabliſhed country duties. Mr. Vanſittart, on being aſked in council laſt Tueſday, What thoſe were that he meant by ſalt, &c.? replied, Only ſalt, for that he never traded in any other. How ill then is his argument ſupported by his declaration, when explained! On the whole, I believe we are by this article, inſtead of trading duty free, which I think we have an undoubted right to, loaded with a duty more than double what is paid by the Dutch, Armenians, or any people of the country.

The acknowleging thus, in a public writing, that the Engliſh do carry on their trade by force or violence, extortion or unfair dealing, as I imagine without any foundation for ſuch aſſertion, is ſo hurtful to the reputation of the Engliſh in this country, that I look on it in the ſame light that I do the giving up the privileges of the phirmaund.

By the ſecond article, contrary to the privileges that the Engliſh enjoy by grants and treaties, themſelves and gomaſtahs are ſubject to the juriſdiction of the meaneſt officer that the Nabob employs, without the liberty of an appeal.

I find ſo many objections, of the ſame nature as were made to the laſt, to be made to this, and every article of this treaty, that I ſhall only remark on the whole of the remaining articles, That by being debarred the liberty of making ſalt, we are deprived of a privilege that every perſon, Europeans and others, in the country have, but ourſelves.

That the giving up the right of coining in the different mints is overſetting a privilege granted from Delhy.

That the throwing the whole trade of Aſſam and Rangamally into the hands of one perſon is a monopoly moſt deſtructive to trade, and more particularly if what Mr. Vanſittart advances be juſt, that the duty on cotton alone in that country brings in a revenue of 40,000 rupees, which if you ſuppoſed at 5 per cent. muſt be raiſed on 800,000 rupees worth, which if thus monopolized muſt greatly raiſe the price of that article, and of courſe the price of cloth.

Upon the whole, I think the written ſecurity ſhould be demanded of the Nabob, and deſtroyed, to prevent, in future times, when our affairs may not be in the flouriſhing ſituation they are at preſent in Bengal, in regard to force, a bad uſe being made of it; for it is probable that the government would, in caſe of having the upper hand in the country, make uſe of it to invalidate the privileges the Engliſh enjoy by their phirmaund, huſbulhookums, and treaties.

In anſwer to queſtion the firſt I ſay—Yes.

To queſtion the ſecond—No.

To queſtion the third—Yes.

To queſtion the fourth—That certificates ſhould be given after the duties are paid.

To queſtion the fifth—Not at all.

To anſwer to queſtion the ſixth I ſay as formerly, Agreeable to the phirmaund: but that a plan be laid down by the board to prevent any injuries being done by the Engliſh gomaſtahs, and for puniſhing thoſe that are guilty; which I think may be well done by a Committee appointed for that purpoſe, who ſhould receive all complaints and appeals from ſubordinates or agents reſiding with authority of the board in thoſe quarters, and examine them; and as it appears that great part, if not the whole, of the troubles that have happened to the Engliſh and their gomaſtahs of late, are owing to the orders ſent over the country by the Nabob, I think it highly neceſſary that we have always a ſenior ſervant reſident with the Nabob, who ſhould be acquainted with all orders regarding the Engliſh; this I think we have a right to demand, and is what we ſhould inſiſt on, as it will in future prevent our ſo long being ignorant of the ſource of our troubles as we have lately been.

Mr.

Mr. Johnſtone thinks the Preſident's letter to the Nabob, containing the new regulations he intended to eſtabliſh, is, from its abject ſtile, as well as conceſſions, highly diſhonourable to us, and ſuch as could not fail of ruining our trade and influence, and reducing us lower than ever the Engliſh were at any period in this country; that the Preſident, without authority, or any urgent neceſſity that yet appears, or can be conceived, reſigned to the Nabob thoſe rights and privileges we are entitled to by the phirmaund, and ſubſequent treaties, and have hitherto enjoyed by virtue of them: Firſt, by diſtinguiſhing the Company's trade from that of their ſervants, and agreeing to an exorbitant duty of nine per cent. on all articles of the inland trade, without diſtinction, or examination of what had uſually been paid on any of theſe articles at the different ſubordinates; eſtabliſhing the rate upon that paid by the gentlemen of Lukypore, though expreſsly mentioned by them to be more than what was paid at Dacca, and known to be above double the duty paid heretofore at Hughley, and though ſalt was the only article in his own private inland trade that the Preſident remembers to have ever paid any duty on or before this time: Secondly, in ſubjecting the Engliſh, and their gomaſtahs, under the authority of the Moores courts of judicature, contrary to the privileges we have ever enjoyed of protecting thoſe employed under us, and ourſelves judges of their actions; the many ill conſequences of which, and the entire loſs of that credit and pre-eminence we have ever maintained, is evident to every body, of which we have had ample proof, ſince the circulation of the regulations, as appears from the complaints of every quarter of the abuſe of the power ſo eaſily put into their hands, by the ſtoppage of our trade and attacks openly made on thoſe entitled to our protection: Thirdly, the prohibiting at once, without reaſon, or ever conſulting the Board, the Company's ſervants, at the factories at Luckypore, Iſlamabad, &c. from making ſalt works themſelves, which is a liberty not denied to any native of the country, and by which their fortunes have been and are endangered, as no time was allowed for collecting in the money they had laid out, and the balance due could only be recovered by receiving the ſalt from the Molongies they had employed.

The articles ordering, without any limitation, that all purchaſes of lands made by any of the ſervants of our factories ſhould be reſigned, was, I think, unjuſt and diſhonourable to us, as if our ſervants, where they paid the due demands to the government, were not intitled to our protection.

The article directing, that the chiefs and ſervants of the factories are not to hinder the weavers and brokers of the government, has been conſidered as giving a full power to the Nabob's officers over them people, and may turn to the ruin of the Company's inveſtment, as appears by the proceedings of Mahomed Aly at the Dacca aurungs.

The foregoing the privilege we had of coining in the mints of Patna and Dacca, while no proviſion was made for the currency of our ſiccas at thoſe places, without diſcount, was giving up what the Company could demand of right: And,

Ordering all purchaſes at Gualparah to be made intirely through the Nabob's orogan, was an infringement of our rights of a free trade in that quarter, and againſt the treaty with Jaffier Ally Khawn, by which we are freed from being even obliged to buy by the intervention of delolls.

The minute of the Board the 17th January, on the proceedings of the Preſident, therefore to me appears well grounded; and I think the treaty ought to be recovered from the Nabob, and deſtroyed, that ſo bad a precedent may never be eſtabliſhed and uſed againſt us.

Next, in regard to the queſtions propoſed, he thinks firſt, that by virtue of the phirmand, huſbulhookums, and the treaties with Serajah Dowla and Meer Jaffier Ali Khan, I think the Company and their ſervants have a right, without any reſtriction or limitation, to trade in and grant duſtucks for every article, whether for foreign or inland trade: our having been reſtricted by the power of the Subahs, before the revolution, from the full enjoyment of theſe rights, can never be urged as a good argument to invalidate them; when we became powerful enough to aſſert them, they were eſtabliſhed as fully and clearly as could be expreſſed in the public treaties then concluded, and in ſunnuds and duſtucks, afterwards iſſued in conſequence, by Seraja Dowla and Jaffier Aly Khan, for the uninterrupted currency of our trade, through the indiſputable authority of the duſtuck, wherever it was granted; and theſe ſunnuds were not merely for ſuch quarters where the Company had factories and aurungs, but comprehended alſo all the diſtant frontier provinces, where they had not the leaſt trade of any kind, as Rungpore, Purnea, Rangamatty, Danageporor, Sylhet, &c. And Jaffier Ally Khan yet agrees, that he underſtood the treaty in this ſenſe; that wherever a Company's duſtuck was granted, no duty could ever be demanded. If cuſtom, and what privileges we enjoyed under the Moores government before the revolution, are to be eſtabliſhed, as what only we have a right to trade in now by virtue of our grants, phirmaun, &c. there is ſcarce an article of the gruff trade, whether for export or conſumption, in Calcutta and other places in the kingdom, but we muſt give up; for it is known we could not profeſſedly in our names trade in thoſe articles, though willing to pay the duties and arbitrary exactions required on ſuch occaſions; theſe various other articles of gruff are no more particularized or expected in any treaty or phirmaund, &c. than the two articles of ſalt and tobacco, and have been ever ſince the treaty with Serajah Dowla carried on with the Company's duſtuck.

That we have acquieſced in paying duty on the ſingle article of ſalt, and paſſing it with the

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ſhaubundars ruanna, at Calcutta, Dacca, and Luckypore, ſhould not now I think weigh with us to continue it, when our rights are called in queſtion, and we are bound to ſupport them in their full extent; above all, as this article is the produce of the Company's own lands, of Calcutta, Purgunnas, Chittagong, Midnapore, Jallaſore, and Burdwan, and as it makes a conſiderable branch of their revenue, ought as much as poſſible to be protected and encouraged, inſtead of being oppreſſed with new taxes, exceeding above double what has yet paid; as for the article of tobacco, no duſtuck from the government has ever been taken, and the duty paid on it has never been demanded till after its arrival at Dacca; and at Coſſimbuzar the Company's duſtucks have been always granted, and never diſputed for this article.

2d. I think therefore that the government have no right to demand that or any other duties, where the duſtuck is granted, and that it ſhould be now granted on ſalt and tobacco, as it has been hithertofore for beetle nut, rice, ghee, opium, ſugar, &c. articles conſumed in the country as well as exported.

3d. Thoſe European inhabitants, who by the Company's directions are not intitled to duſtucks, ſhould not be freed from paying the duties; yet when theſe are diſcharged for the eaſe of trade, I think a paſſport or certificate from the Preſident might accompany the ruanna of the buxſhbundar.

4th. The Engliſh gomaſtahs in any part of the three provinces ſhould be ſubject in no manner to the juriſdiction of the country government; they are not in my opinion, more than their principals, to be accountable to them; I believe they never were; and no ſtep could poſſibly have been taken more ſurely to ruin our trade, influence, and reſpect in the country, than acknowleging them our abſolute maſters and judges; the Company have ever been protected, their gomaſtahs and thoſe of their ſervants; while we have ſubordinate factories, and a fixed government here, juſtice may always be had, when complaints are well grounded, and can be proved by the government's dependants; nor need we be ſtartled with theſe laid before us, but from the ſubject, exaggeration, and groundleſsneſs of moſt of them, conceive what a ſtate of wretched dependance we ſhould fall into, were we liable to be called upon every ſuch like abſurd complaint preferred to the country government. In thoſe more diſtant quarters, where the Company have not factories, the trade is generally managed by gentlemen who have had the approbation of the Board to go up the country, and given ſecurity for their good behaviour; they may be preſumed more to be depended on for determining equitably any diſputes about points of trade, which is all they ſhould or need have any connection with them, any Zemindary Court; an appeal might nevertheleſs always lie from them to the neareſt ſubordinate; and when ſuch perſons are publicly known in thoſe quarters, as under the protection, and acting with the permiſſion and authority of the Board, to whom they are to be accountable, they may, without any new regulation or innovation, carry on their trade to the ſatisfaction of the people, and without any detriment to, or interfering with, the collection of the revenues.

Mr. Haſtings.

My name already appearing to the letter propoſing the regulations which form the ſubſtance of the Preſident's letter to the Nabob, it will hardly be expected of me to join in the harſh and unmerited cenſure paſt upon them by the members which then formed the Board: I at that time regarded theſe regulations, not as a conceſſion of any new rights to the Nabob, but a confirmation of thoſe which he held by the treaties in force; nor has any thing appeared ſince to make me change that opinion.

My ſentiments upon the extent of our duſtuck, and the privilege of our gomaſtahs, I ſhall fully hereafter, obſerving only in this place, that the ſettling the duties on the inland trade at 9 per cent. the Governor only fixed the trade, which was before variably levied, with continual diſputes, to the great detriment of the fair trader; and in this he acted in ſtrict conformity to the plain and literal inſtructions of the Board, whatever ſenſe they were intended to convey.

The Preſident has ſo fully explained the motives and reaſons for this tranſaction, that it is needleſs for me to take up the time of the Board with a repetition of them: upon the whole, I declare it as my opinion, that the regulations in queſtion were calculated in the beſt manner to our trade upon a proper footing, to diſtinguiſh our right from thoſe of the Nabob, to preſerve the Engliſh name from reproach, and the affairs of the Company from ſuffering by continual diſputes and contentions in which they had no concern.

To underſtand the meaning of any treaty, where the expreſſions are doubtful or defective, recourſe ſhould be had to the circumſtances of the parties concerned, at the time in which they were made; regarding the firmaun in this light, we ſhall make no ſcruple to pronounce, that the Company could not, where they obtained that grant from the court of Delhee, underſtand it to extend beyond their own trade, or include privileges of which they could not make any uſe; and which, I may add, they never dreamt of.

The commerce in imports and exports ever bounded, as of neceſſity it muſt, their concerns in this country, for the encouragement of a trade beneficial to the country and its revenues; the court, at that time in its moſt flouriſhing ſtate, and ſupported by wiſe and able miniſters, indulged the Company with the freedom which they petitioned for from duties; then the trade, in ſuch commodities as were produced and ſold in the country, was intirely confined to the natives; they were either farmed out where they were conſiderable enough to make an article in the public revenues, or circulated through the province by the poorer ſort of people, to whom,

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whilſt they afforded a ſubſiſtence, they at the ſame time added to the income of the ſtate by the duties gathered upon them: let us ſuppoſe the Company's agents had petitioned for the liberty of trading in theſe articles without paying duties; can it be conceived that the government could have been ſo blind to its own intereſt as to have given a privilege to ſtrangers which would have enabled them to monopolize the whole trade of the country, to impoveriſh the natural ſubjects, and exhauſt the country of its wealth, without making any adequate return for it? The privileges therefore claimed by the Company, and allowed by the government, were originally deſigned by both for ſuch a trade only as was carried on by the former, that is, in goods brought into the country, or purchaſed in it for exportation; in effect, it was ever limited to that; nor can it be proved that the duſtuck was ever allowed to paſs for any other, from the firſt engagement of this grant until the death of the Seraja Dowla: the Company, in their ſtanding orders before that time, prohibited their ſervants from meddling with what we now term the Inland Trade, and name it illicit; nor can any difference of power convey to us a right from former treaties, which we confeſſedly wanted before, though ſince the reſtoration of the Company's privileges we have by degrees dealt in the inland trade, yet it was always with a tacit acknowlegement of the invalidity of our duſtuck for that trade, having generally paid the government a duty thereon; and where it was attempted without, it has conſtantly been the ſubject of complaints and oppoſition on the part of the Nabob's officers. I am well aware of the objection which I have frequently heard repeated in the courſe of the debates upon this ſubject, and which it may be proper in this place to reply to; I mean, That we ſhould not be too rigorous in calling in queſtion our own privileges; but where the ſenſe of a treaty is not ſufficiently clear, interpret it in ſuch manner as may tend to our own advantage, leaving it to others to diſpute it; and that therefore, as the firmaun gives us a general right to trade duty free, without mentioning any exceptions, we ſhould inſiſt on a free trade in every thing, without exception. Without examining this principle, I ſhall only ſay, that if it be juſt at all, it can only be ſo where the points conteſted for are of real importance; but where they are either trivial in themſelves, or have a pernicious tendency, it muſt be an abſurdity to inſiſt upon them.—I muſt beg leave for the firſt time to diſtinguiſh between the intereſt of the Company and that of individuals, which I am afraid have been too much confounded in theſe debates; that the Company will not ſuffer by a reſtriction of the duſtuck to foreign merchandize is manifeſt, ſince, with that reſtriction, it will anſwer every purpoſe for which they want it. Beſides, the odium which a monopoly ſo injurious to the natural rights of the country merchants muſt unavoidably caſt upon the Engliſh name, and the perpetual jealouſies which, from experience, we know it to be attended with, prove that this privilege is in effect highly prejudicial to the real intereſt as well as honour to the Company. As they have been pleaſed to permit us to ſhare with them the benefit of the duſtuck, we may ſurely content ourſelves with the enjoyment of that privilege within the ſame bounds to which they have limited themſelves. To attempt to extend it beyond that, and, for the ſake of our own private advantage, to make this a point of conteſt with the power in alliance with the Company, is both a violation of juſtice and a breach of the duty which we owe to our employers.

My opinion then, upon the three firſt queſtions before us, is, firſt, That we can claim no right from the phirmaun, nor, of courſe, the ſubſequent treaties, which were but intended as copies of that; in the articles regarding our commerce, to an exemption from duties on any but foreign trade; that is, in goods imported or carried out of the country. Secondly, That duties ought to be paid to the country government on ſalt, beetle-nut, and other articles, which are produced and ſold in the country. And, thirdly, That of courſe the duſtuck ought not to be given for thoſe articles, but that they paſs with a rowana or certificate from the officers of the cuſtoms, in the ſame manner with the goods belonging to other merchants. The fourth article I deem altogether unneceſſary, whether we trade in ſalt with the Company's duſtuck, or, as other merchants, without them, the duſtuck being a ſufficient diſtinction in the firſt caſe, and the latter requiring none.

My opinion upon the fifth queſtion is, That the Engliſh gomaſtahs, in every part of the three provinces, whether in the diſtricts of the Nabob or of the Company, ſhall be ſubject to the magiſtrate; but with this diſtinction to be obſerved between private gomaſtahs and thoſe of the Company, that the former ſhall be equally accountable to the magiſtrate, for any miſdemeanor, with any one of the Nabob's ſubjects that ſhall at any time reſide in the territory of the Company, nor enjoy any advantages above other merchants, but ſuch only as the firmaun gives them, viz. that their goods ſhall paſs duty free wherever they have the protection of the duſtuck; the magiſtrate ſhall not oppoſe, but aſſiſt them, in the recovery of their juſt debts, nor ſuffer any one to injure or oppreſs them; but, as the Company's gomaſtahs have a weightier charge, and are none of them ſituated at ſuch a diſtance from the Company's factories, but that complaints againſt them may be both eaſily heard and ſpeedily redreſſed, it ſhould be only permitted to the magiſtrate to oppoſe them in the actual commiſſion of any violence, or the aſſumption of any right not belonging to them; but in any diſputes with their immediate dependants, ſuch as the weavers, pykers, or delolls in their ſervice, he ſhall not interfere, otherwiſe than by aſſiſting them in carrying their complaints to the preſidency, or the factories to which the gomaſtahs belong, for redreſs; but the gomaſtah ſhall not therefore protect his own dependants from any lawful claims of the government, nor their perſons from juſtice in any criminal caſes.

This

This to me appears the only equitable method for preventing any misbehaviour in our people, or disputes between them and the Nabobs. If the magistrate at any time should abuse his authority, the Nabob should be required, upon proof, to dismiss him from his office, or inflict any other punishment suitable to the degree of the offence. If this justice, so essential to the Nabob's own interest and the tranquillity of the country, be refused, or from the distance of his residence cannot be timely obtained, we have always the means in our power, when such extraordinary occasions may demand it, to vindicate our right, and call the infringers of it to justice.

From the peculiarity of the times, and a natural propensity in the weaker part of mankind to run from one extreme to another, it has unfortunately happened, that the power suddenly placed in the hands of the Nabob's officers, for the protection of his people, has been so extravagantly abused, as to give occasion to a persuasion in many, that no power can with safety be trusted in their hands. As I have formerly lived amongst the country people, in a very inferior station, and at a time when we were subject to the most slavish dependence in the government, and met with the greatest indulgence, and even respect, from the zemindars and officers of the government, I can with the greatest confidence deny the justice of this opinion; and add further, from repeated experience, that if our people, instead of erecting themselves into lords, and oppressors of the country, confine themselves to an honest and fair trade, and submit themselves to the lawful authority of the government, they will be every where courted and respected, and the English name, instead of becoming a reproach, will be universally revered; the country will reap a benefit from our commerce; and the power of the English, instead of being made a bugbear to frighten the poor inhabitants into a submission to injury and oppression, will be regarded by them as the greatest blessing and protection.

It is as impossible for any state to subsist with a divided power as with none. Our servants are as likely, at least, to make an ill use of their power as the Nabob's are, but are not so easily to be restrained. In whose hands, therefore, can it be so properly lodged as in those of the government, to whom it belongs? To take from them that right, a right which we should never suffer to be contested in our own districts, will be to introduce oppression, rapine, and anarchy, into the country which we are engaged to protect; and whatever temporary advantage individuals may gain from such a scene of troubles, the affairs of the Company must infallibly suffer by it, if not be involved in one common ruin with the country. That this consequence may not appear too forcibly drawn, permit me to add, it has been observed, that the wisest and most permanent states have ever left to conquered nations the exercise of their own laws, and by that means insured their subjection. The power which we have acquired in these provinces has reduced them into a condition as nearly resembling a conquest as it is for our own interest to wish it; but if we take so ungenerous, as well as impolitic, advantage of their weakness, as to put it in the power of every Banyan who calls himself an English servant, to tyrannize over the inhabitants without controul, this is not only to deprive them of their own laws, but to deny them even of the benefit of any.

Mr. Cartier gives it as his opinion, that the President's letter to the Nabob was in every respect improper, and naturally intended, from the concessions contained therein, to bring upon the English name discredit and real disgrace; the late violences, as well as insolencies, committed by the natives, are a certain argument of its impropriety, and which were clearly foreseen the very instant the said letter was made public; that the hope given them of being constituted judges and arbitrators of all disputes that might happen in the intercourse of our business, gave cause to the many inconveniences and tyranny that we have lately suffered, and do suffer: the subjecting us to such a controul would have effectually destroyed our influence and reputation in the country, and would unavoidably have led us, from the manifold oppressions we must have fell under by such regulations taking place, to the necessity of taking up arms for the redress of those grievances every member of this colony must have felt by so arbitrary a jurisdiction: as it is, the evil has spread wide, and has acquired such strength, that no other methods, I doubt, but forcible ones, will be able to remove it; that he can't think the members of the Board gave, or intended giving, a direct consent to the President's entering into a treaty with the Nabob on points so very interesting to our privileges, or did they imagine such a step was any ways necessary; but what he thinks most condemnable is, that the said regulations, previous to the approbation or disapprobation of the Board, were made known to the Nabob, and the same ordered by him to his different officers, to be carried into execution, before such agreement could have the concurrence of the several members of the Council: he is likewise of opinion, that the said regulations, and the said letter to the Nabob, were in no respect agreeable to the tenor and spirit of our phirmaund, and the subsequent treaties entered with the Nabob Serajah Dowlah and Meer Jaffier, but would have been the means of confining our privileges into much narrower bounds than the grants and treaties are intended to restrain us in.

First, On the true extent and meaning of the phirmaun, and all subsequent treaties, Mr. Cartier thinks, that by the privileges invested in us by our phirmaund, husbullhookums, and our late treaties, that trade is under no limitation whatever, either in foreign or inland commodities; that the want formerly of power to assert the immunities of the phirmaund, cannot, as he imagines, be construed to an absolute and entire deprivation of them: this reason now no

longer

longer exiſting, we ought to exert our privileges to their fulleſt intent and latitude, nor ſubmit to the capricious conduct and encroaching behaviour of the country government.

Thirdly, On the trade on ſalt and tobacco, he can have no objection to the payment of an equitable duty, more particularly as we have hitherto, both at the preſidency and the factories of Dacca and Luckypore, ſubmitted to pay on one or both of thoſe articles; but let that be fixed at a medium of what has been paid at the different ſettlements, and furthermore to be conſidered as a conceſſion made the Nabob, and not claimed as a right paid as a thing which cuſtom has eſtabliſhed, and not to be confirmed by any treaty.

Fourthly, It is allowed that the trade in ſalt and tobacco is in every reſpect agreeable to our phirmaund privileges: he ſees no reaſon why a duſtuck ſhould not be granted for thoſe articles as well as for all others; tho' at the ſame time, as a duty may probably be laid on thoſe two articles, they ſhould be accompanied with the buxbundar, or the ſhawbundur's receipt, to aſcertain that the full duties have been paid, and that nothing further is to be demanded on any account.

Fifthly, As certificates have been granted indiſcriminately to the Company's ſervants, as well as to the inhabitants of Calcutta, he thinks the ſame ſhould be continued to the latter, on their application to the Preſident, on producing the buxbunder's receipt for duties paid; tho' at the ſame time the duty ſtipulated and agreed upon to be levied on theſe branches of trade, the properties of Company's ſervants, ſhould ſerve as no regulations for what may be demanded from them.

Sixthly, The nature of the government in every part of Indoſtan being in all reſpects oppreſſive and venal, and the deciſion of all cauſes depending more on the ability of the parties engaged in bribing their judges than the legality of them, it can ſcarcely be thought even equitable, that the ſervants and gomaſtahs in our employ ſhould, on any complaint or miſdemeanor, be ſubject to their determination. It is likewiſe a known truth, that in every diſpute concerning property and money matters, a fourth part is appropriated for the ſervice of the government and offices: this probably might not be inſiſted upon from us, tho' its not being ſo would in all likelihood be rather prejudicial than the contrary, as the other party might be ſubjected to the eſtabliſhed cuſtom of the country, which, if ſo, it muſt appear to every one what a ſuperior influence would be acquired on that ſide; but even independant of this cuſtom, and ſhould it not be expected or demanded from either party, yet the integrity of our propoſed judges is ſo little allowed of, that it would be the higheſt abſurdity to expect it, or even to ſubmit in their having the leaſt power or authority over our people: ſhould this be even permitted, it will not be preſumption to declare that we may then begin to date the commencement of our declining influence in the country, and would moſt certainly be productive of continual broils ſhould we have ſpirit ſufficiently remaining to reſent the injuſtice and indignities we muſt in ſuch ſituation be expoſed to.

Sixtnly, Tho' he thinks it improper to allow the officers of the government any kind of controul over our gomaſtahs, yet he is far from wiſhing their actions ſhould be uncontroulable: let the perſon injured, if not in our employ, lay his complaint before the magiſtrate of the diſtrict he is in, to be by him forwarded with the complaint to the Preſident, or Chiefs and Council, of the different factories as be moſt near the diſtrict where the complaint comes from; when the gomaſtah ſo complained againſt ſhall be ordered down to juſtify himſelf as to the accuſation lodged againſt him: ſhould complaints ariſe in parts diſtant from either the preſidency or the factories, he thinks a confidence might be repoſed in the gentlemen employed as our agents in thoſe parts, as they are men of character, and their appointments been approved by the members of the Board, and each depended upon to ſettle the complaints brought againſt their own gomaſtahs: ſhould this not be approved, he can only propoſe the method pointed out as to the determination of thoſe diſputes that may happen in the neighbourhood of the different ſettlements, or by an aumeen, properly authorized to make an enquiry into them. It is neceſſary we ſhould become our own judges in all diſputes in which we may poſſibly be concerned; moſt true it is, it has not the moſt equitable appearance; but every gentleman muſt be convinced how highly eſſential ſuch a privilege is for the ſupporting our influence, and avoiding chicanery and perplexities of a Mooriſh court; and he can't help thinking, but a power ſo lodged in our hands is liable to leſs abuſes, and will be exerciſed with the ſtricteſt impartiality, notwithſtanding we may in ſome reſpects be intereſted in the deciſion of the cauſe.

Mr. Billers's.

The firſt part of the Preſident's letter to the Nabob contains the agreement for our paying a duty of 9 per cent. on all articles for inland trade; the phirmaund, and ſubſequent treaties, are certainly the only guides that can enable us to form a proper judgment on this ſubject; and having given the greateſt attention to them, when read at the board laſt council day, I think they give us an undoubted right to trade, duty free, in all commodities whatever, either for foreign or inland trade, upon the conſideration of our paying annually the piſhuſk therein ſtipulated in lieu thereof. Theſe being my ſentiments of the meaning of the phirmaund, &c. it follows of courſe that I muſt diſapprove of the Preſident's entering into an agreement which ſo evidently deprives us of one of the greateſt advantages we have gained thereby, and particu-

larly of his having done it on the bare ſuppoſition that it would be approved by the other members of the board; however, as the Nabob's revenues would ſuffer, were we to carry on our commerce of every kind without paying any duties, I think it would be proper that ſome reaſonable conſideration ſhould be made him for the privilege of the inland trade; but that he ſhould at the ſame time be made ſenſible that he is by no means intitled thereto, and that it is entirely a mark of favour.

With regard to the regulations the Preſident has laid down for the determination of all diſputes which may happen between our agents or gomaſtahs and the country inhabitants, it is well known that thoſe people cannot confine themſelves within the limits of the authority with which they are inveſted. The many daring inſolencies and oppreſſions which have been committed by the Nabob's officers, ever ſince his orders for enforcing thoſe regulations were firſt iſſued, are evident proofs of the truth of this obſervation, and ſufficiently point out the impropriety of them, without the uſe of further arguments. Upon the whole, I think the Preſident might be deſired to recall this letter, leaſt, by falling into the hands of any of the Nabob's ſucceſſors, it might hereafter be uſed by them as a plea for the ſame purpoſe for which it was now deſigned.

I have already declared my opinion of the firſt query propoſed, in giving my ſentiments on that part of the Preſident's letter which related to the 9 per cent. duty; with regard to the ſecond and third, I think the Company's duſtuck ſhould be always granted equally for the inland, as well as the foreign, trade, when it has been ſettled whether we ſhall pay any and what duty, as it will effectually cut off all ſubject of diſpute, by putting it out of the power of the officers to make any objection to the paſſage of the goods; and that none but Company's ſervants ſhould have the Preſident's paſſport for the ſalt which may have paid the government's duty at Hughley.

As to any diſputes which may happen between our gomaſtahs or agents and the people of the country, I think the only ſcheme for the determination of them will be to oblige the perſon who may think himſelf aggrieved to apply for redreſs to the neareſt factory, whatever diſtance may be from the place where the diſpute happened, and if he is not content with their deciſion he may appeal to the Governor and Council.

WM. BILLERS.

Mr. Batſon thinks the Preſident's letter to the Nabob detrimental to the intereſt *of the and the* nation in general; becauſe, by a forced and groundleſs explanation, it invalidates the privileges granted by the King's phirmaun, and ſundry huſbullhookums, and confirmed by the treaties with Serajah Dowlah and Meer Jaffier; ſuch an explanation coming from the chief of the Engliſh may give great advantage to Nabobs, and to other European nations againſt us, in future negociations which we may happen to have with them. By this letter alſo, the advantage of coining in the mints of Patna and Dacca is given up, at the ſame time the Calcutta mint rendered of little or no ſervice; for by our being prohibited from uſing any authority over the ſhrofs, the currency of rupees coined at Calcutta will be ſtopped in moſt parts of the country; and this is actually the caſe at preſent at Coſſimbuzar and Murſhedabad: he was much ſurprized to ſee thoſe advantages, which were ſo ſtrenuouſly contended for many years together, given up without any public conſideration: he thinks alſo the ſaid letter tends to deſtroy the national influence in this country, and to bring us into contempt; becauſe the form of addreſs, and ſeveral expreſſions, are unbecoming, ſubmiſſive, and condeſcending; but chiefly, becauſe it ſubmits the Engliſh agents, not excepting the Company's factories, to the juriſdiction of the Nabob's officers, which would immediately put a ſtop to great part of the private trade, and would furniſh the Nabob with continual pretences for ſubjecting the Company to the ſame oppreſſions which they underwent before the rupture with Serajah Dowlah, whenever he ſhould think himſelf in a condition to proceed to ſuch lengths; he therefore thinks we ſhould inſiſt on the Nabob's ſending back the ſaid original letter.

In anſwer to queſtion the 1ſt,

He thinks by the phirmaund, huſbullhookums and ſubſequent treaties, the Company, and under them their ſervants, have a clear right to trade in every article, whether for foreign or inland trade, which is right, it is our duty to preſerve entire and indiſputed; and that the arguments uſed by the gentlemen on the other ſide of the queſtion, to prove the contrary, do really prove no more than that former Nabobs had the power and means of hindering us from enjoying the King's grant in its full extent.

In anſwer to queſtion the 2d,

He thinks we ſhould acquieſce in paying the ſame duty on ſalt and tobacco that have been paid ſince Meer Jaffier's coming to the ſubah, but that the ſame ſhould not be agreed to by any public deed or writing; and here he thinks proper to remark, that the ſalt trade being formerly farmed by Coja Wazeed for an inconſiderable ſum, could be no great advantage to the Nabob's revenue; and by means of the monopoly he allowed the mahers and dealers at the firſt hand, a very ſmall price, from 25 to 30 rupees per 100 maunds; but ſince the Engliſh have had a part of this trade, the price of ſalt has riſen to 70 or 80 rupees per 100 maunds at the aurungs; from hence any perſon acquainted with the country muſt ſee, that from the Engliſh trading

trading in this article the Nabob has received benefit, not ſuffered loſs; his complaints on this head therefore proceed not from any real grievance.

In anſwer to queſtion the 3d and 4th,

He thinks duſtucks ſhould be allowed to the Company's ſervants in future for ſuch articles, but not others.

In anſwer to queſtion the 5th,

He thinks the Engliſh agents ſhould not be ſubjected to the authority of the country government.

In anſwer to queſtion the 6th,

He thinks the buſineſs may be carried on as it has been before, without any ill conſequences; however, as a regulation concerning diſputes is required, he thinks the officers of the government may enquire into ſuch matters, and ſend reports of them to the neareſt Engliſh factory, or to the preſidency, as they may chuſe.

Major Carnac's.

At the conſultation of the 17th January, Major Carnac concurred in opinion with the whole of the gentlemen then at the Board, on the regulations eſtabliſhed by the Preſident and Mr. Haſtings; and his reaſons for ſo doing, were, firſt, that he deems highly diſhonourable our being thereby ſubjected to the Mooriſh juriſdiction, as this is acknowleging a dependancy on the country government, the deliverance from which he had ever regarded as the great happineſs reſulting from our firſt reſolution; nor can any but iniquitous deciſions be expected from courts of ſuch notorious partiality.

Secondly, Major Carnac deems diſhonourable, as alſo extremely prejudicial to our trade, the agreeing to the duty upon all articles of inland trade, without diſtinction, none of which were ever before ſubjected to the duties to the eſtabliſhment of Meer Jaffier, except ſalt and tobacco; and this muſt have been through condeſcenſion on our part, as our having an univerſal freedom of trade is ſo particularly ſpecified, both by our phirmaunds and treaties, as not to leave the leaſt open for cavilling. Major Carnac, thirdly, deems it a diſhonourable conceſſion (and the gentlemen at Patna have ſhewn it will be detrimental to the Company) the yielding up the coinage in the mint at Patna, to which he believes we are entitled from our phirmaunds; but, excluſive thereof, we had a very good claim from our having conſtantly enjoyed that privilege during the time of the preceding Nabob. The Major, in conſequence, thinks the letter from the Preſident to the Nabob, containing the ſaid regulations, ſhould be withdrawn.—Thus much being premiſed, anſwers, on the part of Major Carnac, the firſt and fifth queſtions.

With reſpect to the ſecond and third queſtions, Major Carnac is of opinion, that whatever rights we may have, from our phirmaunds, and our different treaties, ſhould be inſiſted on; and therefore, that the Company's duſtucks ſhould be granted for all commodities, without exception; and that no duties whatever ſhall be paid to the Nabob, but in lieu therefore, a duty be levied upon duſtucks, for the benefit of the Company; however, ſhould the Board think this would occaſion a great diminution of the Nabob's revenue, he hopes they will not conſent to any other duties, but the continuance of thoſe upon ſalt and tobacco, the former at the Houghley rate, and the other according as has been paid at Dacca; and that in ſuch caſe, it will be clearly explained to the Nabob, that it is pure indulgence from us, and which we may retract at pleaſure—The Company's duſtucks, nevertheleſs, equally given for ſalt and tobacco, as for all other articles of trade.

If it be determined to make a compliment to the Nabob of a duty upon ſalt, the other gentlemen of the Board are the beſt judges how far the privilege of trading therein ought to be extended, and whether it ſhould be confined to the Company's ſervants or not. Major Carnac begs leave to wave giving any anſwer to the fourth queſtion, not being ſufficiently maſter of the ſubject.

That the black people in our employ are guilty of great irregularities, and commit many abuſes under the ſanction of our authority, has been a frequent ſubject of complaint; and it certainly behoves us to ſeek every poſſible remedy thereto, except ſuch a one as has been propoſed, which is worſe than the diſeaſe; there can be no difficulty at the places which are in the neighbourhood of any of our factories, the chiefs and council whereof ſhould be empowered to enquire into the conduct of the Engliſh gomaſtahs; and we are not to doubt that the deciſions will be fair and equitable: in the places at a diſtance from our factories, ſuch as Rungpoor, Gualpore, &c. there are generally ſome Engliſh gentlemen of character reſident; and then in caſes of complaint, ſhould be directed by the Board to take informations upon the ſpot, and to ſpare no coſt or pains to get at the truth, which ſhould be tranſmitted either to the neareſt factory, or to Calcutta; and upon conviction of any gomaſtah of miſbehaviour, the moſt exemplary puniſhment ſhould be inflicted, in order to deter others from the like practices.

Mr. Amyat—Mr. Vanſittart in his minute of the 1ſt of February, complains of the harſh and indecent opinion of the Board, on the 17th of January, againſt his treaty entered into with the Nabob, and that his negotiations therein did not merit ſuch treatment from us.

We are unanimous on the regulations being detrimental and diſhonourable, which every article

article contained therein, I think, clearly denounced—the government formerly muſt have underſtood our phirmaund gave us a full and extenſive trade in every thing, without diſtinction; and as far as our gentlemen were in capacity to carry on the inland trade, they practiſed for many years; but particular articles being farmed out to the government to particular perſons, our trading therein gave umbrage, and Governor Stackhouſe, I think, was obliged to give a mutchulka that the Engliſh would deſiſt from further dealing in ſalt, ſilk, and beetle nut; this was at a time they could not maintain by force the Dilley grants, ſo through neceſſity complied with, an order at this time would have had the ſame effect; but they obliged the then governor to invalidate the phirmaund, by giving this muckulka which ſhewed they thought our right good, and by compulſion got this paper to overſet our future pretenſions, and has been ever ſince the argument againſt us, therefore detrimental, and diſhonourable. Mr. Vanſittart renewing this mutchulka, the adding an additional duty to what we have already paid through a condeſcenſion, is doubtleſs detrimental, the ſubjecting us to the Mooriſh laws, and which, to our honour be it known, in the worſt of times we never were; but now, not even an appeal to the Nabob or the Council is mentioned; this, doubtleſs, is both detrimental and diſhonourable: how prejudicial, partial, and unjuſt the nature of their courts, cuſtoms, and laws, are ſo well known to you all, Gentlemen, it's needleſs for me to take up your time in giving you my ſentiments in full thereon; the mentioning that our ſervants, gomaſtahs, &c. ſhall not carry on trade by oppreſſions, &c. are diſhonourable terms to be inſerted in a public treaty; ſurely the Engliſh juſtneſs and honour was ſufficient for the government to be ſatisfied, that we ſhould ſurely chaſtiſe any of them who dared to proſtitute our name, by any illicit action, without making it an article for them to do it: many complaints have appeared, but none proved, and I flatter myſelf none will, of any conſequence; the Nabob's orders in circulating Mr. Vanſittart's treaty, are diſhonourable to us, and in a manner an act of hoſtility, bidding us open defiance.

The foregoing were my reaſons for concurring with the reſt of the Board on the 17th of January, in cenſuring the Governor's proceedings: and I am alſo to remind you, that we thought he had alſo been guilty of a breach of our privilege in acting without our conſent; and I ſtill think ſo: for I ſolemnly declare, I never ſuſpected he could deſire ſuch an independant power, or ſo material or national a concern, or imagine the reſt of the gentlemen would have been more explicit and peremptory in their letters to him; nor is it conſiſtent with reaſon, any council ſhould give ſuch powers.

Doubtleſs, Mr. Vanſittart will aſk, What regulations we wanted to have ſettled with the Nabob, which we hoped from his influence with the Nabob? for he ſeems to know no one elſe would be ſuch as tended to our advantage, and not to his prejudice; for if trade went freely on, we would readily acquieſce in paying duties as had hitherto been collected; but the removal of ſeveral vexations we had lately laboured under, was the point we wanted to ſee happily effectual; and our goods were certified to the Engliſh property, not to meet with any impediments.

I now come to the firſt queſtion the Nabob and Mr. Vanſittart ſeem to think, and aſſert we have not, a liberty to an unconſtrained trade. We have, Gentlemen, carefully peruſed all our phirmaunds, treaties, &c. and I think it clearly appears to me we have; therefore, as the Nabob wants to invalidate thoſe grants, we ought to have them properly explained to him; and inſiſt on our parts to the utmoſt of the Company's prerogative, and demand the treaty back and deſtroy it.

To the ſecond, I am to ſay, Since the Nabob has wanted to impoſe on us a breach of our liberties, we ſhould not pay any duty on any thing, but ſupport our rights: the Company may want to trade in theſe articles, when we conſider their vaſt tract of lands and production thereof, eſpecially ſalt, on which article they raiſe a very large duty themſelves.

To the 3d and 4th queſtions, Duſtucks cannot be granted to any but Company's ſervants, unleſs it be for ſuch goods produced upon the Company's lands, and paid their duties; but certificates ſhould to ſuch as have paid the Nabob's any where, on a proper ruwanna being ſhewn to the governors or any chief, ſatisfaction that the Nabob's cuſtoms have been duly diſcharged.

To the 5th and 6th, The ſervants and gomaſtahs of the Engliſh ſhould not on any account be under the leaſt conſtraint of the government; but begs leave to defer ſaying any thing further on this head for the preſent; however, to regulate the diſputes that may happen betwixt them and the country government; and indeed among themſelves, till ſuch time as he has heard it properly diſcuſſed at the board, where the mutual advantage of the country and ourſelves will be impartially conſidered and deliberated on.

Major Adams does not think the agreement made with the Nabob, as contained in the Governor's letter to him, calculated to anſwer the end propoſed by it; viz. To ſettle things on ſuch a footing as may prevent future diſputes with the country government, of whoſe juſtice Mr. Vanſittart ſeems in that treaty to have entertained a much better opinion than their ſubſequent conduct ſhews they deſerve.

In anſwer to the 1ſt queſtion.

Major Adams is of opinion, That by the phirmaund and ſubſequent treaties, particularly the ſecond article of that with Surajah Dowlah, the Engliſh Eaſt-India Company are intitled to carry on any kind of trade duty-free, and in any part of the three provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa.

To

To the 3d,

That the abovementioned phirmaund and treaties entitle the ſaid Company to carry on their trade, free from any duties; but that to prevent, as much as poſſible, any diſturbances in the country, ſuch duties as have been collected on any ſpecies of trade, ſince the laſt revolution, ſhould be continued. In anſwer to the 3d and 4th queſtions, Major Adams is of opinion, that as the privileges in the abovementioned phirmaund, &c. were granted to the Engliſh Eaſt India Company, they, and their repreſentatives here, are the proper judges for what, and to whom, diſtricts ſhould be granted; and as he looks upon the above queſtions to be a private nature, begs to be excuſed giving his opinion upon them.

In anſwer to the 5th queſtion, Major Adams thinks that the experience we have had of the tyrannical and rapacious diſpoſition of the officers of the country government almoſt renders this queſtion unneceſſary; however, as his opinion is required with the reſt of the gentlemen at the Board, his duty to the public obliges him to declare, that he thinks that it ſhould by no means be allowed.

To the 6th and laſt queſtion, that wherever any conſiderable trade is carried on, however far diſtant, a Company's ſervant ſhould reſide, inveſted with full power to enquire into any diſputes, and puniſh the delinquents; and that when the trade carried on is not of conſequence ſufficient to require a reſident, upon any complaints againſt gomaſtahs, or Engliſh factors, the perſons complained of ſhould be immediately ſummoned to the neareſt Engliſh factory, as well as all the evidences againſt them; and that the Chief of ſuch factory, with his Council, ſhould be impowered to inflict the ſevereſt puniſhment on ſuch gomaſtahs and factors,—if found guilty; and that no expence ſhould be ſpared to bring offenders to juſtice.—But ſhould the complaint be found to be falſe or frivolous, the complainant ſhould pay all the coſts and damages.

The regulations contained in my letter (A) to the Nabob of the 26th of December, are ſuch as appears to me to be conformable to the true intent and meaning of the phirmaund and ſubſequent treaties, conſidered with the Company's orders relative to the trade of their ſervants, and particularly the 24th and 29th paragraphs of their letter, of the 27th June 1748.

I am aware that the abuſes, which ſome of the Nabob's officers have exerciſed, upon the appearance of theſe regulations, will be urged as an objection to them; but this is arguing by conſequences; and I anſwer, that thoſe, or whatever other regulations may be propoſed, will ſometimes be abuſed by both parties, eſpecially on their firſt eſtabliſhment; and the only remedy for this evil is, to puniſh all ſervants of ours who ſhall break through rules, and inſiſt on the Nabob's doing the ſame: although ſome men are ſo licentious as to break through all laws, it is not a reaſon why laws ſhould be aboliſhed.

But to proceed to the particular articles objected to: Firſt, it is ſaid, That the inland trade, that is the trade in ſalt, and other articles produced in one part of this country, and ſent to another part of the ſame country for ſale and conſumption, ſhall not be carried on with the Company's duſtuck, but ſhall go with the duſtuck of the country government, after paying them a duty of nine per cent. The phurmaund ſays, That whatever goods or merchandize the gomaſtahs of the Engliſh Company ſhall bring into any port or place of the province, by ſea or land, or carry out, ſhall be free of duty: for my part, I can underſtand this no otherwiſe, than that the goods they ſhall bring in from foreign parts may be tranſported to any part of the province, by ſea or land, duty free; and the goods they purchaſe in any part of the province may in like manner be carried out. This I imagined to be all the Company aſked; and it is not to be ſuppoſed more was granted: by ſuch a trade, the country reaps the benefit of the goods and money imported; but all that is gained by us in trafficking from place to place in the country, in articles of its own produce, is in truth ſo much loſt to the country.

The ſubſequent treaties confirm the privileges of the phirmaund; and particularly the ſecond article of the treaty with Serajah Dowlah declares, That all goods going to or coming from any place, by land or water, with the Company's duſtuck, ſhall be free. It remains ſtill to be limited by firmaund, and the Company's orders, for what occaſions the duſtuck ſhall be granted; and I think it behoves us greatly to take care they are not granted for any purpoſe beyond the intention of the firmaund, and to anſwer thoſe ends the Company had in view when they put themſelves to the expence of applying for it. With reſpect to the power of our gomaſtahs, the firmaund ſays, That in every place where they buy or ſell, the officers of the government ſhall aſſiſt them in their lawful demands; and every merchant, weaver, or other perſon, upon whom the Engliſh gomaſtahs ſhall have a juſt demand, the officers of the government ſhall oblige them to pay it, and ſuffer no one to oppreſs the gomaſtahs; and if any ſervant of the Company's, being in their debt, ſhall run away, the officers of the government ſhall take him up, and deliver him to the chief of the factory.

The Nabob Jaffier Aly Cawn, in his general ſanad, 1757, confirms all the phirmaund privileges; and adds, that the Company may buy or ſell without employing a banyan, or broker, and that the officers of the government ſhall aſſiſt them in all their juſt demands: nothing here can be ſaid to give our gomaſtahs power to decide their own cauſes, or make uſe of any force of their own; but they are to apply to the officers of the government, and obtain redreſs through their means.

As to the coinage, there is an order, granting the Company permiſſion to coin at the King's mint, at Cariemabad; and, in caſe it can be done without loſs to the King's revenue, three days in the week are to be ſet apart for the Engliſh Company's bullion; but

there

there is no particular indulgence. As to the rate of coinage, they are to pay the ſame mint chevegs as other merchants; and this is all the Nabob deſired, as I mentioned in my anſwer to Nobi Troies complaints; of which anſwer I gave Mr. Ellis a copy; beſides, I think this privilege now unneceſſary, as we have a mint of our own, in which we may coin the rupees of Dacca and Patna, as we do thoſe of Murſhadabad. With regard to making toffals or ſalt pans in Sunderbund, I confeſs my letter to the Nabob does not fully expreſs what I intended; I meant, that we ought not to take away the grounds which other merchants have cleared, nor the workmen; which as appears by my letters to the chiefs of Chittegong, which I delivered to the Nabob at the ſame time, they have heard. And as to the trading by our gomaſtahs with the mountaineers, who come with cotton to Rangamatty; if it has been cuſtomary for that article to be farmed out by the country government, and it is from that only the revenue proceeds, I think we have no right to over-rule that cuſtom. Any innovations to the prejudice of the revenues of the country government, and the excluſion of the country merchants from that ſhare of the trade which they have long inherited, I think, ſhould be avoided, as ſuch proceedings muſt render us univerſally the object of jealouſy and ill will.

To the propoſed queſtions I therefore ſay, firſt, that I think we have not a right, by phirmaund and ſubſequent treaties, to carry on the inland trade, or the trade from place to place in the country, in commodities produced in the country; but that we have a right to carry on all other trade cuſtom-free.

Secondly—That I think duties might be paid to the country government on ſalt, beetle nut, tobacco, and all other articles of inland trade; and that a grant ſhould be obtained from the Nabob, confirming to us a right to carry on that trade upon thoſe conditions, ſo that it may not hereafter be diſputed.—I mean, that duties ſhould be paid to the country government upon articles produced in the country, ſent from place to place in the country, for ſale and conſumption there; but when ſent to Calcutta, for conſumption or exportation, they ſhould go with the Company's duſtuck, and pay no duties to the country government; in ſuch caſe, the country has its advantage in the vent given to their manufactories or produce by the trade of this ſettlement, and the Company receive the cuſtoms; but on the inland trade we pay no duties at all, unleſs we pay to the country government, and yet that trade will afford duties better than any other.

Thirdly and fourthly. I think the Company's duſtuck ſhould not be granted for any article of inland trade; but that certificates ſhould be granted by the Governor of Calcutta, or the chief of any factory, to accompany the duſtuck of the country government; and that ſuch certificates ſhould be granted equally to Company ſervants; any other licence Engliſh merchants who have firſt duly paid the government duties, and got their duſtuck.

Fifthly and ſixthly. I think the Engliſh gomaſtahs ſhould not be under the controul of the officers of the country government, at thoſe aurungs which are under the charge of any of the ſubordinate factories; but, in caſe of any complaint againſt them, the officers of the country government ſhall apply to the chief of the factory for redreſs; and in caſe the gomaſtah has a diſpute with, or demand upon, any of the country people (not the weavers or other immediate ſervants of the Company) he ſhall apply to the officers of the government for redreſs; and if the officer of the government neglects or refuſes to grant it, the gomaſtah ſhall then make his complaint to the chief of the factory, who ſhall require, and if neceſſary exact, an immediate compliance, giving a full account of the matter to the Board.

But at thoſe auſums which are not under the management of any of the Company's factories, but only ſome particulars have their agents or gomaſtahs, thoſe, I think, ſuch an authority cannot be truſted in their hands, nor indeed is it poſſible, as there may be ſeveral different gomaſtahs in one place who have all an equal right to authority; I think they ſhould apply to the country government for redreſs on all occaſions; and if the officers of the government do not grant them the ſatisfaction the matter requires, the gomaſtah may then make his complaint to his principal, and he to the Board, who will inſiſt on the neceſſary reparation for all unreaſonable loſſes: I do not, however, mean, that in caſe of complaint againſt an Engliſh gomaſtah at ſuch place, the officer of the country government ſhall have authority to ſeize the gomaſtah, ſtop his goods, or interrupt his buſineſs; but he ſhall give him notice of the complaint, and recommend to him to get it ſettled; and in caſe the gomaſtah refuſes or neglects to give ſuch ſatisfaction as ſhall appear to the government's officer to be reaſonable, he may then tranſmit the complaint to the governor of Calcutta. I ſee nothing in the firmaun or ſubſequent treaties which forbids the officers of the government from doing themſelves juſtice on ſuch occaſions; but yet, the nature of the people is ſuch, that it would be dangerous to admit it; of which their preſent violent proceedings is a ſufficient proof.

The opinions having been all read at the Board, the ſum of the anſwers to the ſeveral queſtions, ſtand as follows.

To the firſt queſtion,

In the affirmative, ten voices.

In the negative, with reſpect to the inland trade, two.

To the ſecond,

In the affirmative, ſeven.

In the negative, five.

To

To the third,

In the affirmative, nine.

In the negative, two.

Major Adams ſilent.

The fourth queſtion, being altered by the determination of the ſecond, ſhould ſtand thus;

" As it is determined that duties ſhould be allowed on certain articles, Whether certificates " ſhall be granted to thoſe who pay that duty, but are not Company's ſervants?"

and it being accordingly put, the ſum of the anſwers ſtand as follows:

In the affirmative, Meſſrs. Hay, Cartier, Amyatt, and the Preſident—four voices.

In the negative, Meſſrs. Watts, Marriott, Johnſtone, Haſtings, Billers, and Batſon—ſix voices.

Major Carnac and Adams ſilent.

To the fifth and ſixth queſtions, The opinion of all the Board, excepting Mr. Haſtings, imports, That the Engliſh gomaſtahs ſhall not be under any actual controul of the officers of the country government, but be reſtrained by ſuch regulations as may be laid down.

As it is the opinion of the majority of the Board, That a conſideration ought to be paid to the Naboh on certain articles of the inland trade, the members from the ſubordinates are aſked, What duties they have hitherto paid, and on what articles?

No. 6.

Fort William Conſultation, 5th March 1763.

TAKING now into conſideration the neceſſary regulations for reſtraining our agents and gomaſtahs from interfering with any affairs of the country government, injuring the people, or being injured by them, and for deciding of diſputes which may ariſe between them;

It is agreed,

Firſt, That at all thoſe aurungs which are adjacent to or under the management of the ſubordinate factories, the gomaſtahs, in caſe of being injured by any of the officers of the government or their dependants, ſhall firſt make their application for redreſs in writing to the officer of the government reſiding on the ſpot, from whom if he does not receive immediate ſatisfaction, he ſhall ſend his complaint to the chief of the neareſt factory, who ſhall be impowered to take cognizance of the ſame, and demand or exact, if neceſſary, the ſatisfaction which the caſe may require: but that it is to be underſtood, in reſpect of weavers, pykars, and all others who receive advances of money for goods to be provided, or are indebted for goods bought, the gomaſtahs ſhall retain their power as uſual, to call ſuch debtors to account: that, on the other hand, where the government's people ſhall have reaſon to complain againſt Engliſh gomaſtahs or agents, ſhall give the ſaid agent or gomaſtah notice of the complaint in writing, requiring and recommending to him to ſettle it in an amicable and equitable manner; and in caſe the agent or gomaſtah refuſes or neglects to ſettle it in ſuch a manner as ſhall appear reaſonable to the government's officer, he ſhall then tranſmit an account of it to the chief of the neareſt Engliſh factory, and deliver a copy of the ſaid account to the gomaſtah; and the chief of the factory is hereby required ſtrictly to examine into the affair, and decide it according to juſtice, giving a copy of his determination to the officer of the government who made the complaint. That the gentlemen of the ſubordinates ſhall keep a regiſter of ſuch complaints, with the deciſions paſſed on them; a copy whereof ſhall be forwarded monthly to the preſidency.

Secondly. With reſpect to the diſtant places where trade is carried on, ſuch as Rungpore, Purneah, Gual Parah, Rangamatty, there is at preſent no reſident on the part of the Company; but at Rungpore a proviſion of ſilk is made by a gomaſtah from Coſſimbuzar factory; which proviſion, it is hoped, may be increaſed and improved by the care of a covenanted ſervant. At the ſame time, the ſituation of this place is ſuch as will be convenient for examining the complaints, and deciding the diſputes which may ariſe in moſt of thoſe places.

Agreed, therefore, That the addition of a ſenior ſervant be made to the Council at Coſſimbuzar, and appointed reſident at Rungpore.

That the order forbidding our ſervants or dependants from holding of lands, gunges, rents, or employments of any kind, under the country government, ſhall be again repeated.

That ſuch, however, as have inherited talooks, from purchaſe, or other good right, ſhall not be obliged to give them up, but hold them as other talookdars in the country; being informed once for all, that, in reſpect to ſuch rents held from the government, they are not to avail themſelves of our protection to inveſt them with any particular privileges.

That ſuch complaints as have already been made, and tranſmitted to the ſeveral ſubordinates, ſhall be enquired into and decided, conformable to the above regulation, and that ſuch as have not yet, ſhall now be forwarded to the proper ſubordinate for that purpoſe.

Agreed, in conſequence of the above mentioned reſolution, That Mr. Lyon be appointed third of the council at Coſſimbuzar, and reſident at Rungpoor.

HENRY VAN SITTART,
WM. BILLERS,
RAND. MARRIOTT,
H. WATTS.

No. 7.

APPENDIX, No. 7.

No. 7.

Fort William Conſultation, 7th March 1763.

RECEIVED two letters from the Nabob, dated the 26th of February, in anſwer to thoſe wrote to him by the Preſident, in conſultation the 15th February.

The ſame being now read at the Board, it appears, that in one of them he contains his anſwer with reſpect to trade, in the Three following Demands or Propoſals.

Extract of a Letter from the Nabob to the Governor, dated the 12th Shaaban, or 26th of February; received the 7th March 1763.

Three demands which I formerly put to you I now again repeat: the firſt is, From the beginning until now the Nazim of Bengal correſponded with the Governor of Calcutta, juſt as I have been acquainted with you, my friend, and am now acquainted with you, and not having a ſingle word of correſpondence with the reſt of the Board.

The ſecond is, viz. I formerly repreſented to you, that the Company's trade has been fixed time immemorial, at this preſent beſides the Company's trade, the gomaſtahs of the Engliſh gentlemen have ſet up the trade of ſalt, tobacco, dried fiſh, timber, &c. and make purchaſe of the country people with force and extortion, and are continually contriving unjuſt diſputes and wranglings with my officers, ſo that the poor, the inhabitants, the merchants, and manufacturers of my country are oppreſſed, and both you and myſelf are troubled with unjuſt vexations. Now I ſay alſo, that your gomaſtahs are to trade as in cuſtoms in the merchandizes imported and exported, which has been the practice in this country; and are to refrain from thoſe articles of trade which perplex the revenues due to my adminiſtration, and are a cauſe of diſputes, and be the ruin of the inhabitants and poor people.

The third is, Whether your Excellency's will is, at all events, to commit the expences of the army, and management of the country and his Majeſty's revenues, to me; and your own gomaſtahs are to carry on thoſe branches of trade which were never practiſed in the country; and my country is to be oppreſſed, under pretences of trade, and the officers of my government are to have no concern in the affairs of the adminiſtration, or be allowed to ſay a word.

In the other there appears throughout a general diſinclination to give us any ſatisfaction for the interruption and ill uſage which we have received from Mahomed Aly and other officers of the government; and that both his letters ſeem, upon the whole, rather an evaſion than an anſwer to the Preſident's repreſentations.

Agreed therefore, That a letter be immediately wrote to him by the Preſident, acquainting him with this our opinion of his letters, and giving him a full account of what has been hitherto reſolved on by the Board, in conſequence of the phirmaund and other public orders of the court, and of the ſubſequent treaties, which have all been referred to, and ſtrictly examined; and by the tenor of which the Board are determined to abide.

That copies of all thoſe phirmaunds, huſbulhookums, and treaties, together with the regulations which we have now reſolved on, will be ſent to him by Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay, and whom we ſhall depute from the Board to explain to him more fully the injuſtice of thoſe rights and pretenſions, and ſettle the rules for levying the cuſtom, which we have agreed ſhall be paid. That with reſpect to the complaints already made, we do inſiſt on juſtice againſt all thoſe officers of the government who may be proved guilty of the obſtructions and extortions laid to their charge, and that reparation ſhall be made for the loſſes occaſioned thereby: that, on the other hand, all the complaints made by his officers, in different parts of the country, againſt Engliſh agents or gomaſtahs, have been referred to the examination of the gentlemen of the factories neareſt to thoſe places from whence the complaints have come; and whatever injuſtice it may appear they have committed, we ſhall be particularly careful to cauſe them to make amends for.

Mr. Johnſtone moves, That a letter be now wrote by the Board to the Nabob, in anſwer to the firſt of his three demands, explaining to him the powers of the Council, that it is with them that in fact he acts, although their opinion is tranſmitted through the channel of the Preſident; that therefore he ſhould conſider them in the firſt degree:—further, that in it the Governor's letter, containing the regulations, ſhould be re-demanded; and that the letter now ſent ſhould be ſigned by the Board, and ſealed with the Company's ſeal.

The ſecretary being directed to collect the opinions of the Board on this motion of Mr. Johnſtone's, the ſeveral members delivered the ſame as follows:

Mr. Watts is of opinion, that a paragraph ſhould be inſerted in the letter to be wrote to the Nabob, explaining to him the powers of the Board; and that the letter ſent by Mr. Vanſittart to the Nabob ſhould be demanded back as from the Board, but that the letter now ſent be forwarded under the Preſident's ſeal.

Mr. Marriott is of the ſame opinion with Mr. Watts.

Mr. Hay thinks the explanation regarding the powers of the Council ſhould be made to the Nabob in a public letter, agreeable to Mr. Johnſtone's motion; but that a demand for the letter, containing the regulations, ſhould be made in a letter under the Preſident's ſeal.

The Company plainly declare their intention, that all correſpondence with the country powers

powers ſhould be carried on through the channel of the Governor; and as an alteration of this cuſtom will ſubject the Nabob, who has not been uſed to ſuch a method, nor can be a judge of the propriety of it, to great perplexities, and tend to create a breach between us, I object to any letter being wrote to the Nabob but with the Preſident's ſeal.

As to an explanation of the powers of the Board, the Nabob, to my knowlege, is well acquainted with them, nor is ſuch an information in any wiſe neceſſary.

It is alſo unneceſſary to demand back the Governor's letter to the Nabob, will of courſe be annulled by the new regulations.

Meſſrs. Cartier and Billers are of the ſame opinion with Mr. Watts.

Mr. Batſon agrees with Mr. Johnſtone in opinion, That the authority of the Board ſhould be aſſerted, and the Governor's written agreement be demanded back; and that it is the intereſt of the people, that the correſpondence ſhould be carried on by the Board.

Major Carnac is of opinion, That the Nabob does not, or will not, underſtand the powers of the Board, and therefore they ought to be ſo explained to him as to admit of no diſputes; which cannot be done any way ſo effectually as by a letter under the public ſeal, as propoſed by Mr. Johnſtone in his minute; and that in the ſame letter the Governor's, containing the regulations, ſhould be demanded back.

Mr. Amyatt is of Mr. Watts's opinion.

Major Adams is of opinion, That the Nabob's letters ſhould be anſwered by the Preſident, in the name of the Board, under his own ſeal, which, with the purport of letter, will ſufficiently convince the Nabob that the power is lodged in the majority of the Council; and that he thinks the demanding the letter will more properly become part of the inſtructions to Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay.

The Preſident obſerves, That he has already explained to the Nabob, more than once, the power of the Board, and that he acted, in his own opinion, by the powers of the Board when he wrote the letter in queſtion; but that as the Nabob affects to be inſenſible of the powers of the Board, and, inſtead of complying with the agreement, endeavours to make the worſt uſe poſſible of the letter, he thinks he ſhould be wrote to, in the terms propoſed by Mr. Johnſtone, but that it ſhould be wrote in the uſual manner, through the channel of the Preſident, as any other method is contrary to the Company's ſtanding orders, as well as detrimental to their affairs.

The majority of the Board being of Mr. Watts's opinion;

Ordered,

That two additional paragraphs, expreſſing the ſenſe thereof, be added to the letter which is above directed to the Nabob by the Preſident:—that the whole letter be drawn up by the ſecretary, from the reſolutions of Council, and, when approved by the members, be ſent to the tranſlator, with directions to render it into Perſian, applying to the Preſident for the moonſhey, who uſually writes the letters for that purpoſe.

In conformity to the reſolution contained in the above letter,

Meſſrs. Amyatt and Hay be deputed to the Nabob with full inſtructions, agreeable to the reſolutions of Council; and that they do carry along with them a perſon who ſhall afterwards be reſident at the durbar, to tranſact ſuch buſineſs as muſt neceſſarily occur.

No. 8.

Fort William Select Conſultation, 30th April 1764.

REceived a letter from Coſſimbuzar, dated the 16th inſtant, incloſing a copy of one which they had received from Mr. Jeykyll at Rungpoor, complaining of an inſult offered him by Mr. George Ivie, an European agent reſiding there, in a letter which he wrote him, and of the ill uſage which the vacqueel of the Shawpoor zemindar had received from a gomaſtah of Mr. Pottocks (another agent) ſet forth in a petition to Mr. Jekyll; of theſe two papers they alſo incloſe us copies, and requeſt we will give ſuch orders as may prevent the like behaviour in future; as it will be impoſſible for Mr. Jekyll, if he is to be inſulted in the diſcharge of his duty, to put a ſtop to the numberleſs apprehenſions the government's people daily labour under, from the unlawful proceedings of many of the private Europeans agents and their gomaſtahs, ſettled in the Rungpoor and Dinagepoor countries, and of which repeated complaints have been made to the chief, by the Naib at Moorſhedabad.

Read Mr. Jekyll's letter, and the other papers referred to in the Coſſimbuzar letter.

Read a letter from Mr. Jekyll to the Preſident.

Read a letter from the juſſildar of Dinagepoor to Mr. Jekyll.

Ordered, All theſe papers be entered after the Coſſimbuzar letter.

Mr. Middleton delivers in a letter, acquainting us, that Mr. Ivie is his agent; and accompanying the copy of a paragraph of a letter which he has received from him; in which Mr. Ivie repreſents the matter of Mr. Jekyll's complaint againſt him in a very different light to what he has done.

Ordered, It be entered, with the paper accompanying, after this conſultation.

The foregoing papers call to our mind the many diſputes and complaints which have already come before us, between the European agents and the country government, and proving the neceſſity of providing as ſoon as poſſible ſome effectual remedy.—And

The matter having undergone ſome debate at the preſent meeting;

Agreed, We come to a reſolution on the ſubject next Thurſday; and that theſe papers do lay for conſideration till that time.

APPENDIX, No. 9.

No. 9.

Fort William Select Conſultation, 3 May 1764.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable Henry Vanſittart, Eſquire, Preſident,
Warren Haſtings, Eſquire,
Randolph Marriott, Eſquire,
Samuel Middleton, Eſquire,
Ralph Leyceſter, Eſquire,
John Burdett, Eſquire.

THE book of ſtanding orders on the table.

The Conſultation of the 30 ultimo, being wrote fair, was now read, and approved.

Having now reſumed the conſideration of the ſubject debated on at laſt council, and diſcourſed fully on every point that occurred to the different members,

The Board drew up the following general opinion:

Every method has been tried for carrying on the inland trade upon ſuch a footing as to prevent diſputes between our agents and the country government, or between one agent and another, and for deciding in a juſt and reaſonable manner ſuch as unavoidably might happen; having experienced the obſtructions to which that trade would be liable, if the officers of the country government were admitted to any authority over the Engliſh agents; it was reſolved in conſultation, 5th March 1763, That the chief of the neareſt Engliſh factory ſhould finally determine all ſuch diſputes; and as the Rungepoor, and Dinagepoor, and adjacent diſtricts, where a very conſiderable part of this inland trade centers, appeared to be too far removed from any of our factories to admit of ſuch enquiry being made in a ſatisfactory and accurate manner; for this reaſon principally it was agreed, that a ſenior ſervant ſhould be appointed to reſide at Rungpoor, who ſhould have power to hear and determine all diſputes.

No ſooner is this reſolution carried into practice, than ſome of the Engliſh agents complain as loudly of injuries ſuffered from the authority of the Engliſh reſident, as they did before of the Nabob's government.

Shall there then be no government, no reſtraint upon thoſe exceſſes, which either ignorance or paſſion, or ſelf intereſt, may lead an Engliſh agent to commit in the country? This is really the caſe at preſent; and although it is very certain, that ſome of the gentlemen employed are of unexceptionable character, and whoſe good behaviour might be depended on, yet many there are of a contrary diſpoſition; but there need not many arguments to prove, that both the good and the bad ſhould be under ſome law; yet if we examine the caſe of the Engliſh agents up the country, we ſhall find they are under none; our character does not authorize our courts to take cognizance of any crimes they might commit in thoſe parts; and it has been laid down as a fundamental principle, that the country government ſhall have no power of them.

We need not look further for the root of that licentiouſneſs which has produced ſuch innumerable complaints from the country government, and the inhabitants in thoſe parts where European agents have been ſent; it now no longer can be doubted, that many of thoſe complaints have been well grounded, particularly in the article of ſelling goods by force, for more than the current market price; a practice called in this country Barja, or Guchaout.

All the power we can give the Chiefs of our factories over theſe agents will be very inſufficient to remedy this diſorder; ſince in reality *none ourſelves*; and therefore diſagreeable as it is to deprive ſo many of our nation of the benefits they now receive, by being employed as agents in the country, yet it ſeems an unavoidable neceſſity; and for the ſake of the public tranquillity and welfare muſt be adopted, and the trade carried on for the future by the black gomaſtahs, who may be tried and puniſhed by our court of jemindary, if they commit any exceſſes or acts of injuſtice, and that power delegated, as far as ſhall appear neceſſary, to the chiefs of the ſubordinate factories.

It will be objected, by the concerned in the inland trade, that gomaſtahs will be liable to be oppreſſed by the country government, who have taken, and will take, every opportunity of reſtraining us from that trade, which they regard as an innovation; this objection we believe is very juſt, and we ſhall expect that many difficulties will be found in the beginning in carrying on this trade by gomaſtahs; but theſe we think may be ſurmounted by proper applications to the Nabob and his officers; and upon the whole are of opinion, that all private inconveniences muſt be ſubmitted to, even the riſk of being entirely deprived of the trade, rather than ſuffer the inhabitants of the country to be oppreſſed by an abuſe of the Engliſh name.

It is therefore the opinion of the Board, and reſolved, That all the Europeans, Portugueſe, natives, and Armenian agents, and which are now up the country, ſhall have notice given them to ſettle their concerns ſo as to return to Calcutta by the 30th of November next; and that after that time no European ſhall be permitted to go up the country on any pretence whatſoever, or any other agents be employed in our trade but Bengal natives.

With reſpect to the practice of carrying on the inland trade by force (called Burja, or Guchaout) it is a practice which we intirely diſapprove; and in order to put a ſtop to it as ſoon as poſſible, it is agreed to ſend directions to Dacca, Rungpore, Mantda, to forbid it in the diſtricts under their factories; but to do it with ſuch care and diſcretion as not to affect the Company's inveſtment, as we don't mean to invalidate the right derived to the Company from their phirmaund, always held over their own weaver.

As theſe reſolutions will affect the particular intereſt of all the gentlemen in the ſervice, by altering

altering the manner of carrying on the trade, it was wiſhed, that every poſſible expedient ſhould be propoſed for rendering more effectual the intention of the Board, with as little inconvenience as poſſible to particulars; and every objection heard that the caſe will admit, before theſe reſolutions ſhall take place.

Agreed therefore, That a copy of the proceedings of laſt Monday, and of this day, be forwarded to Meſſieurs Batſon, Billers, Verelſt, Cartier, Johnſtone, Watts, and Senior, and their opinions deſired, which we mean ſhall be eſteemed as voices to the queſtion.

Meſſieurs Middleton and Burdett differing in opinion from the reſt of the members, with reſpect to the firſt reſolution, deliver in their ſentiments in the following minute:

By recalling of Engliſh agents from the different aurungs, and placing black gomaſtahs in their ſtead, we think we ſhall be ſubject to the ſame inconvenience, with reſpect to diſputes with the country government as at preſent; for the latter are naturally of a tyrannical and arbitrary diſpoſition, and where they have any authority, they will exert it to the utmoſt of their power, at leaſt as far as they find it neceſſary for their own intereſt; we judge that they will have an equal authority to an Engliſh agent, as they muſt be ſupported by the ſame inſtrument, a duſtick and Engliſh colours, elſe they cannot carry on their buſineſs; and we therefore think, it would be beſt to give the preference to gentlemen of our own country, in whom we can certainly place more dependance than on a black gomaſtah; but that ſuch gentlemen as are ſent ſhould be only men of known probity and good character, and that have the permiſſion of the whole, or at leaſt the majority of the Board; we would recommend ſevere penalties being annexed to any breach of ſuch orders as the Board may pleaſe to give them, relative to their interfering in the affairs of the country government; and that theſe penalties may, without favour, be put in execution, whenever there is an inſtance of an offence of this kind: this, we conceive, will keep trade in general more on a ballance; for if the Engliſh agents are withdrawn, the gentlemen reſiding at ſubordinates will have ſuch influence through all the adjacent aurungs, to their reſpective factories, that they may, when they pleaſe, monopolize the whole trade to themſelves.

With reſpect to the ſecond and third reſolutions, we agree intirely with the opinion of the Board.

Ordered, in conſequence of the third reſolution, That the papers be prepared, and forwarded as ſoon as poſſible to the different gentlemen, with a letter from the ſecretary.

HENRY VAN SITTART,
SAMUEL MIDDLETON,
RALPH LEYCESTER,
JOHN BURDETT.

No. 10.

Fort William Select Conſultation, the 21ſt July 1764.

THE ſecretary reporting, that he has received the opinions from the ſeveral gentlemen at the ſubordinates, concerning the European agents, the Board now proceed to determine finally on that ſubject.

Read again the Conſultations of the 30th April and 3d May.

Read the opinions received by the Secretary, in the following order:

Mr. Batſon is of opinion, that the permitting of free merchants, or any others, not in the Company's ſervice, to ſettle at the aurungs, or other places up the country, is quite contrary to the intentions of the Company, no ſuch thing having been allowed for 10 or 12 years after he came to Bengal, and that a ſtop ought to be put to it, ſince he is perſuaded it would prove highly detrimental to the Company's trade and intereſts in theſe provinces.

Patna, May the 18th, 1764.

Having peruſed the Conſultations of the 30th of April and 3d of May, I now give it as my opinion, that all Europeans, &c. agents, ſhould be called down from the different aurungs; for I don't conceive it poſſible to lay them under ſuch reſtrictions, ſo as to prevent their meddling with the country government, by ſetting up for phouſdars wherever they go, which has been too much the caſe of late; for this reaſon, as well as that by the continuance of them at different aurungs they might in time be a great detriment to the Company's inveſtment, by providing of goods for foreigners; I think it highly neceſſary to withdraw them, as ſoon as they can ſettle their preſent concerns; however, I can't help obſerving, that the orders of the Board are ſomewhat hard, in not permitting an European to go up the country on any pretence whatſoever, as there are ſome particulars to be excepted to; namely, that of conducting of boats, which cannot be ſo well performed as by the management of an European. WM. BILLERS.

Mr. Verelſt, after having carefully peruſed the Conſultations of the 30th of April, and 3d inſtant, with the papers therein referred to, tranſmitted to him by the Secretary, by order of the Board, begs leave to remark as follows:

From the general opinion the Board have formed in their latter conſultation, it appears to him, that the debates have taken their riſe from Mr. Jekyll's complaints againſt Mr. Ivy, an European agent, for having wrote an inſulting letter to him; and from the ill uſage that the zemindar of Shapore had received from a gomaſtah of Mr. Pollocks, another agent; but as the Board ſeem not to have come to a determination, how far either the one or the other of theſe gentlemen has been culpable, and as the reſolution of the Board to call down all European agents has been formed from an opinion of the ill behaviour of thoſe that have been employed, and as Mr. Verelſt is unacquainted with the different complaints made, he would have been glad to have

have heard the debates on Meſſrs. Jekyll and Ivy's letters, as their repreſentations are ſtrongly contradictory to each other, to have enabled him to have given his opinion more fully thereon; therefore, ſhould he be deficient in what he may propoſe, he hopes the Board will conſider how difficult it is to recommend a remedy, where the diſeaſe is not thoroughly known.

Firſt, He is of opinion, that European agents, in any part of the country, acting with the approbation of the Preſident and Council of Bengal, are as much under the law, as any perſon reſiding at any factory, eſtabliſhed before or ſince the grant of his Majeſty's charter; for his Majeſty's intentions, as expreſſed in the beginning of the charter, ſeem to be for the benefit of all ſuch of his ſubjects as carry on their trade in any part within the limits preſcribed; which are ſet forth to be, from the Cape of Good Hope to the Streights of Magellan: that no factory in the kingdoms is out of the limits of our own courts, every member of the Board muſt be well ſatisfied, ſince a warrant from the Mayor's court was not long ſince ſent ſent up, and executed on a gentleman in this place. The ſame public power that authorizes an agent to trade in theſe countries, conſirms to him by that act a protection for his life and property againſt every invader, through thoſe parts where the influence of ſuch power extends; and the agent becomes reciprocally anſwerable for his own conduct.—It is not doubted, he preſumes, but that the Board have a privilege of ſettling a factory, for the greater conveniencies of trade, in any part of theſe provinces that they may approve; and that on ſettling ſuch factory the members are ſtill under the law; if therefore, in a collective ſenſe, any number of gentlemen are thus qualified, and naturally continue ſubordinate to the laws of their country, be their reſidence in thoſe parts where it will, he hopes it will not be diſputed, but that the ſame ſubordination extends to any ſingle member, or to an agent publicly and fully authorized to trade in the ſame parts (that is to ſay, by the ſuffrage of the Board) as it does to this community; for equity muſt invariably be the ſame in a ſingle as in a collective ſenſe; and his Majeſty's motive ſeems to have been, that his grant ſhould not be confined to any particular place or degree. Mr. Verelſt therefore thinks it would be an inconſiſtency to ſuppoſe, that his Majeſty could intend, that one part of his charter, which conſtitutes the Mayor's court of Calcutta, ſhould have a power of trying all loſſes of meum and tuum, where the property of any of his ſubjects was concerned, be the debt contracted (and the perſons preſent) in any place within the limits of trade; and that the other conſtituting courts, for the redreſs of greater grievances, where his ſubjects one with another were alſo concerned, ſhould in any caſe be ſo confined, as to leave their perſons and properties without redreſs.—Indeed, he conſiders the charter a more extenſive good, deſigned for the happy government and protection of every individual of the Engliſh nation reſiding in any of theſe parts.

Secondly, He is of opinion, that the employing Engliſh agents is much more eligible than black gomaſtahs; for having experienced both, he can aver, that he has never had a complaint againſt any of his European agents, though he cannot ſay ſo much of the black gomaſtahs, whoſe tyrannical and arbitrary diſpoſitions, when in authority, do incline them to a ſearch after their own intereſt, and a diſregard to every means they may think moſt convenient to promote it; nor can the ſtricteſt eye over them, and even the infliction of puniſhment, root the evil out; whereas he believes that few Europeans are without ſome principles of honour and juſtice, but ſhould there be a character void of them, he imagines ſuch might eaſily be detected, and the power of the Board prevent their being employed; for he thinks it both right and neceſſary, that every European agent going up the country ſhould have the approbation and permiſſion of the Board; and if any perſon be propoſed to them, whoſe character and diſpoſition they are any ways dubious of, and who cannot give an ample and ſufficient ſecurity for his good behaviour, he thinks it highly neceſſary ſuch perſon ought to be objected to; the ſecurity might be reſponſible for his not interfering with the Nabob's officers, revenues, government, or any concerns belonging to the natives; but ſhould the agents be ill uſed by them, his application for redreſs may be made to the Chief of the neareſt ſubordinate, or in caſe of his not being in the neighbourhood of a ſubordinate, to the Preſident of Calcutta; and ſhould an European agent, after this, be guilty of any act of a criminal nature, he thinks the Board have a right immediately to recall him, when he may be proſecuted for his offence: but ſhould Mr. Verelſt be erroneous in his opinion, in regard to the execution of our laws in ſuch caſes, not having a perfect copy of the charter to refer to, and that ſuch offences cannot be tried by our own laws, we have ſtill a ſufficient authority left of adminiſtering juſtice by the laws of this country; for if an agent, when up the country, is ſuppoſed to be under his own native laws, he muſt unavoidably be under the laws of the country he is in, for it is impoſſible that a ſubject of any ſociety can be unreſponſible to all law; this method he thinks the Nabob can have no objection to, though the offence may be committed within part of his government, where he ſhall be convinced how far it is only intended to give redreſs to his ſubjects by the moſt impartial juſtice; nor does he apprehend the injured native can diſapprove this method of redreſs, which he may without expence; when in the ſame circumſtance, by application to his court, he muſt pay ſo heavily for it; and to prevent any objection being made to the diſtance that ſuch complainants muſt come for redreſs, a reaſonable allowance for their loſs of time and expence (which will alſo be a further check on agents) may be made to them by the offender, or in caſe of his default by his ſecurities. A few examples like theſe he doubts not would in a ſhort time remove moſt or all complaints againſt European agents; but he knows no method that can be propoſed to prevent the licentious behaviour of black gomaſtahs.

Having thus far conſidered the propriety of employing European agents or black gomaſtahs, Mr. Verelſt begs leave to add, that it is his opinion a greater dependance may be made on gentlemen of our own country, and a much greater advantage reaped by the trader from their ſervices;

vices; and viewing it alſo in a political light, he thinks many very material benefits may ariſe from the knowledge we might thereby gain of the country, its produces and trade, the cuſtoms, manner, and government of the people; circumſtances which we may ever remain ignorant of, if black gomaſtahs only are to be employed; the benefits of the knowledge of which ſpeak ſo ſtrongly for themſelves, that they need no comments thereon.

The licentiouſneſs of European agents that the Board mentions, in the circumſtance of Barja or Guchaout, he is of opinion ought to be entirely prohibited; and is ſurpriſed how ſo extraordinary an oppreſſion has taken its riſe, or was ever ſuffered, if known to the employers of ſuch agents as are accuſed of it.

Mr. Verelſt therefore begs leave ſummarily to obſerve, that he is of opinion European agents ſhould be employed in preference to black gomaſtahs; and that ſuch agents who have the approbation and permiſſion of the Board may be proſecuted for any crimes or licentiouſneſs they may commit.

Mr. Cartier's Opinion.—Having peruſed with much attention, and deliberately reflected on the purport of the conſultation held in Fort William the 3d of May, I agree in opinion with the majority of members at the Board, as to the neceſſity of recalling all European agents, Portugueſe, and Armenians, reſiding in the inland parts of the country, and employed by gentlemen in the Company's ſervice; but that a ſtated time be allowed the gentlemen, as may be thought ſufficient to conclude their affairs now in the hands of their ſeveral agents. The frequent complaints which have been made by the officers of the government, of the great power and independency theſe agents aſſume in conducting their buſineſs, the abuſes the natives are ſubject to from their caprice and uncontroulable authority, are the chief reaſons of my agreeing to the above opinion: if we expect the Nabob will ſet about redreſſing the errors in his government, he has a right to expect we ſhould remove ſuch in ours as may be particularly oppreſſive on his ſubjects: when private intereſts interfere with public tranquillity, it ought to give place; and all methods that may tend to remove jealouſies ought to be purſued with vigour: the time of European agents being allowed to go up the country is of a very late date, and has not been very general till within theſe two years; how agreeable this practice would prove to our honourable maſters, it is moſt probable we ſhall have their ſentiments on the ſubject by the next ſhips.

JOHN CARTIER.

Mr. Johnſton's Opinion.

It is obſerved in the general opinion, that every method has been tried for carrying on the inland trade upon ſuch a footing as to prevent diſputes between our agents and the country government, or between one agent and another; yet I can recollect no method that has ever been tried, but that which was claimed and approved in the general council; viz. the appointing a reſident for the diſtrict of Rungpore, and referring diſputes in other places to the neareſt Engliſh factory: if the want of proper and explicit powers inveſted in the reſident there to take cognizance and determine in theſe matters, or his abuſe of them, has given cauſe for complaints againſt him by European agents and gomaſtahs, or of appeals to the Honourable Board for further inſtructions for his future guidance, it is moſt to be wondered at, but may be expected in all new regulations, which cannot be perfect at once, but by experience and frequent amendments; which ſurely ought firſt to be endeavoured at, and I am far from imagining now more than before to be impracticable.

Inſtead therefore of ſo readily ſeizing and making an handle of the firſt ſquabbles, abuſes, or unjuſtifiable proceedings of the Engliſh agents and gomaſtahs, on their conteſting the power of the reſident, or of the reſident and his gomaſtahs proceedings in their competition of intereſt at Rungpore, to entirely aboliſh the regulation made for conducting the private trade in general through the country, before we have had time to try the good effects it is capable of producing, when carried into execution, it ſhould much more reaſonably occaſion an enquiry to be made into the proceedings of the parties complained againſt, and that proper ſecurity and reſentment ſhould be ſhewn towards thoſe who may be found to have tranſgreſſed. Scarce any laws have been made without being liable to ſome inconveniences and defects; ſurely when this regulation was made, it was not ſuppoſed that cauſes of complaint would immediately ceaſe, and never more exiſt: but that this eſtabliſhed method for examining into and ſpeedily redreſſing them bid faireſt for correcting and leſſening them in future: let government and proper reſtrictions take place by all means; but as all men are fallible, it is the more neceſſary that the powers of thoſe who govern, as well as the liberties of thoſe who are governed, ſhould be clearly and fully explained and preſcribed.

I ever diſapproved of thoſe regulations by which our inland trade and privileges in the country were ſo eaſily and precipitately given up to the lawleſs will of the Nabob Coſſim Aly; and though white men are men, there ever will be abuſes; yet I am far from thinking it right, thoſe in general that have been complained of, but that have never yet, that I know of, been properly examined into and proved, ſhould be urged as eſtabliſhed facts, or be the grounds of reſolutions ſo likely to be productive of the ſame bad effects on our inland trade. It was reſolved at that time, when ſo many complaints were collected and produced before the Board, that they ſhould be properly enquired into, without being taken for granted, by the chiefs of the factories the moſt contiguous to thoſe places, and by the reſident at Rungpoor, whoſe appointment was principally on this account, in order no doubt that ſatisfaction might be given to the ſufferers, and example made of the offenders; which no one then thought either impracticable or beyond the power of the Governor and Council; nor can I conceive how it is become ſo now, or that no obligations that can be entered into betwixt them and the Eu-

ropeans can be binding, or penalties recovered of them, which ſeems to be urged as the greateſt difficulty and objection; but though the whole reſentment now meditated is likely to fall on the Europeans alone, yet by that very collection, and ſince, I believe it will be found that there are many more complaints againſt the Bengal native gomaſtahs for the abuſe of their power, than againſt the European agents under whom they are employed; yet if it is intended we ſhould ſupport our right to, and enjoy the advantages of, a fair and open inland trade in future, the native gomaſtahs, to be employed in managing ſo conſiderable concerns, muſt have powers inveſted in them like to thoſe that are given to Engliſh gentlemen, by none of which do I imagine they are ever authorized to act with violence, injuſtice, or oppreſſion to any one. From their ideas of government, the conſtitution of their country, and the daily examples of their own people before their eyes, as well as from my own experience of their behaviour, I eſteem them equally liable and more prone to make a bad uſe of their ſtations and powers in their tranſactions in the country, than our countrymen, and I wiſh I had no reaſon to complain of their honeſty; however, it is plain that they may be reſtrained and furniſhed by theſe very ſame rules and laws now, when they act ſubordinate to an European agent ſtationed up the country, as they can be when inveſted with their powers immediately from the Company's ſervants, wherever they may chance to be; nor do the reſtraints that we have upon them, with all the powers of a Zemindary or Cutcherry Court, appear to me to be half ſo great as thoſe we have it in our power to impoſe on Europeans. A black fellow, if found clever and diligent in buſineſs, we ſee never at a loſs for getting employment, though he may have impoſed upon many maſters; beſides, being in his own country, he can never be without reſources; but I think it very different with an Engliſh agent, whoſe very bread and fortune muſt depend upon the protection, aſſiſtance, and employment, of the Company, or of their ſervants; and who, by depriving them of this, have it always in their power to puniſh thoſe that behaved unworthily:—if ſo unſurmountable an obſtacle and ſo many difficulties preſent themſelves, merely for want of power in proſecuting and puniſhing any capital offences in Europeans, becauſe the rights of our charter extend only within the bounds of our own factories—judging as Engliſhmen, is the difficulty leſs, when we come to examine by what legal authority we can proceed to try, and put the ſame puniſhments in force againſt, the natives that happen at this time to be under the Company's power, or who act in affairs of commerce within the Nabob's dominions?—Perhaps the trueſt anſwer can be given is, that it is a neceſſary exertion of power that we aſſume, to prevent greater inconveniences, and the bad effects of ſuffering crimes to go unpuniſhed, which our power, now ſo greatly extended, won't longer admit of being ſubmitted to another tribunal.

The arguing that our Engliſh agents are not liable to be tried by our laws for any crimes they commit in thoſe parts, and that this is the ſource of thoſe evils, makes equally ſtrong againſt the Company's employing their ſervants without the limits of their charter; but they have never yet declared on this account that they debar their ſervants from employing any agents they pleaſe, and thereby ſharing on the advantages of trade they themſelves enjoy in this country, merely from the poſſibility of their committing capital crimes.—I believe there are few, if any, of our nation, ſtand accuſed of any other principles; and other checks have in this reſpect anſwered all the purpoſes of a penal law. What ſecurity do the Company yet require for the good behaviour of their ſervants, in their dealings with the natives, that the free merchants have not given, or that the Board are not at liberty to require, or greater, if they think proper, on the part of thoſe Europeans ſent up the country? Extortion, violence, and puniſhments inflicted of their own authority, and ſuch like abuſes, if not proſecutable in the Mayor's court or Cutcherry, yet the agents and their conſtituents may be bound down by ſuch penalties, in caſe of bad behaviour, as to render this a greater check and reſtraint than the common proſecutions at law, beſides their being recalled and never again permitted to get their bread in that employ, or, if the Board think proper, ſent home. While Meſſrs. Van Sittart and Haſtings carried on their trade, none in the ſettlement had ſo many European agents in their ſervice up the country as they, and ſome of theſe, if we credit the repreſentations lodged againſt them, particularly Muſtapha and Mr. Moore at Rungpoor, carried it with as high a hand as any others that have been charged with an abuſe of the power and name of the Engliſh: while theſe gentlemen were carrying on their trade in its greateſt extent, and had not declared their intentions of going home, I do not recollect that their zeal for the Engliſh name, which in their former political tranſactions and treaties has been ſo little conſidered, gave occaſion to any propoſals for recalling all Engliſh agents:—that they promote it when their affairs are collecting in, and themſelves not likely much longer to be intereſted in the conſequence, is not ſtrange; while it will be urged to our honourable maſters, as a proof how much before they were in the right, in their famous paper of new regulations, in ſacrificing to the public tranquillity, as they may ſay, our privileges of a free inland trade, &c. &c. and all the reſt that then diſapproved it, and planned this regulation, were in the wrong: yet what are the unſurmountable difficulties that have ariſen ſince, I am at a loſs to conceive: if ſo extenſive a private trade was conducted well and prudently by Mr. Van Sittart's agents, there is ſtill as much reaſon to expect it may be yet conducted diſcreetly for others, by men whoſe characters are to be approved of by the Board, and when theſe regulations and obligations are put in force. I am well convinced with what jealous eyes the government's people and country merchants look on us ſince we became ſharers in the inland trade, which formerly they carried on alone, and how ready the officers and collectors

collectors are to complain, exaggerate, and misrepresent the most trifling circumstances against any of our people, that can serve for an excuse for their not paying up for their collections; yet the longer we defer examining and confronting them, the more will those excuses be pleaded and supposed as true. Let it therefore be firmly resolved, that they in future be fairly tried; and satisfaction, such as the Board in such cases shall think meet, be duly given on the offenders. The number of complaints and causes would soon, I believe, much diminish, when it is one made publicly known to the Government's officers, and to the country people every where, that it is our resolution to protect them, and redress their grievances in their transactions with our agents, &c. and a method pointed out to them how they may have justice. Daily experience persuades me these people will not be backward in their application to our courts; or that an agent can long continue to exercise oppression or rapine without being found out and convicted, at the hazard of his bread. This I think sufficient to obviate any objections drawn from the difficulties the Board must always be under, as to the distinguishing who are proper people to be permitted to go up, from ignorance of characters, and from the valuableness of the same men, who in such situation act very differently from what they have done in other stations, because their actions, it is evident, can neither be long disguised or concealed. But can it be wondered at, should many of the irregularities, abuses, and oppressions, complained of, have actually been committed, while we have neither taken cognizance, punished, or inquired into, ourselves, any who could have been convicted; nor would permit the government's people to use the same methods as before the revolution 1757, for doing themselves justice, or obtaining satisfaction, by a reference to any of their own magistrates? As for my own part, I neither desire to screen nor to support Mr. Pollock, nor any that I have had dealings with, for misdemeanors that can be made appear, either past nor to come; his being particularized in the complaints that has given rise to the present proceeding, will, I hope, excuse me to the board for producing other instances in this case, and pointing out in return, that Mr. Moore was then supported by 25 Seapoys besides his peons, &c.; and by Mr. Jekyll's own representations on that very letter, had, with the assistance of Captain Daw, settled and recovered all his demands for losses, and who, it would appear, overawed the Rungpoor Phousdar, so as not to dare to complain or acknowlege any thing about it.

As I have declared my disapprobation already of every abuse the Englisth agents, as well as those gomastahs that are employed under them, have made or may make of their power, I am the readier to agree to the tying them down by every restriction that reason and prudence can dictate, as most likely to correct the like in future; by bounding their powers in regard to the force they should keep, badges, Chubdar sticks, &c. and never to allow them to punish or redress themselves at their own hands, but oblige them to submit their complaints every where to the chiefs and residents; when they should be publicly tried, entered, and registered in books for that purpose; and liberty, in sums to a certain amount, for appealing to the governor and council. I would recal all those who are known to have behaved badly heretofore, and without satisfactory proofs of their innocence, would not permit such to return again; allow none but men of good fame to go up, either to reside in any part of the country, or to conduct fleets; and oblige them and their employers to give such security as that damages could always be recovered of them in case of bad behaviour. Should those measures prove ineffectual, we may then think of adopting others; but for vague and general complaints and aspersions, or for the offences of a few, without an effort made to examine and rectify them, to take a resolution so injurious to the rights and trade of every Company's servant, and to the British subjects under the Company's protection, appear to me highly improper:—The support of these and our other privileges, in their full extent, against the usurpations of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy war, and after so many valuable lives lost in the defence of them, I shall ever be against parting with them, or hazarding the loss of them, without greater and better cause than has yet appeared; and till after we have found by exprience that all other remedies are in vain.

It must be well known, to all who have had their concerns managed at the discretion of Bengal gomastahs at a distance, what embezzlements and deceits they are guilty of; and that temptation to make away with their employers money is stronger than any fear of corporal punishment or imprisonment; which they submit to for years sooner than refund; as yet neither death nor loss of cash has been annexed to their breach of trust:——Is it to be expected their fidelity and moderaion in the exercise of their trusts will be increased, by knowing that we are without other recourses obliged to employ them alone? To oblige us therefore to trust our fortunes solely to the fidelity of black servants, over whom we have so little rank, rather than the conduct and discretion of men that we ourselves, it is presumed, ought to know; who are to be judged of and approved by the Board, who have their honour, character, and their future success, at stake, in my humble opinion, is neither right nor salutary.

I subscribe to the dissent of Messrs Middleton and Burdett to the first resolution of the majority, which I think they have supported with very good and true reason:—In the second, I think the orders regarding the stopping the oppressions by Baya and Cajaat are very proper: but if any such methods are used over the weavers employed in furnishing the Company's investment, I

imagine it muſt be equally their intereſt, and for the honour of their name, that ſuch methods ſhould in future be prohibited finally; ſuch reſolutions ſeem more eſpecially premature at preſent, after the great loſſes that the ſervants, whoſe fortunes were circulated in the inland trade, have and do ſuſtain by the troubles, and by the yet diſtant and uncertain proſpect they have of reſtitution, and the narrow bounds preſcribed to their claims; and above all, conſidering that this affair has been already ſo lately heard and determined in a General Council, and the Company's final regulations, to whoſe determination it has been referred, may be ſo ſoon expected.

Burdwane, the 4th July, 1764 — JOHN JOHNSTONE.

Mr. Watts's Opinion.

Mr. Watts agrees with the general opinion in the conſultation of the 3d of May, for recalling the Engliſh, Portugueſe, and Armenian agents; but as by this ſtep the gentlemen ſtationed at the ſubordinates and reſidencies, will have it in their power to monopolize the trade to themſelves, he thinks it ought to be guarded againſt; and therefore propoſes that we have permiſſion to ſend European agents to reſide at the ſubordinate factories and reſidencies; and the better to prevent their interfering with the country government, they ſhould not be allowed to go to adjacent markets, villages, or cities without the leave of the chief, neither ſhould they be ſuffered to ſeize any pykars or others, but to apply to the chief for the redreſs of any grievances. Calcutta, the 25th June 1764.

Mr. Senior's Opinion.

The ordering down of Europeans has been a matter of long debate, and which I was ever of opinion would be the only means for eſtabliſhing of peace and tranquillity in the country. My former ſituation at Dacca gave me a much greater opportunity than moſt of the gentlemen in the ſervice to ſee the neceſſity of ſuch a ſtep, as appears by my frequent remonſtrances to the board on the ſubject; and ſince I have been at Coſſimbuzar, complaints of the like kind have been more frequent, particularly from Rungpoor, Denagepoor, and the diſtricts of the Ratſoy Raja, liſt whereof I now encloſe for the honourable Board's inſpection. I will allow that many of them may appear both frivolous and unjuſt, as it is not to be doubted but the country people will take every opportunity to deprive us of a trade they regard as uſurped; yet I am well convinced that ſome of them are not without foundation, as I made it my buſineſs to ſend Hircarras to ſeveral of the places mentioned, to make the inquiry, before I would give my judgment on ſo intereſting an occaſion. I ſhould be very ſorry to be the means of depriving ſo many of our nation of the benefits they now receive, by being employed as agents up the country, as I have a great regard for many of them, and believe of unexceptionable characters; but as I do not find that any method can be fixed on to curb the licentiouſneſs of others, or to keep ſuch as are worthy only in our employ, I am therefore of opinion that a general removal ſhould take place, agreeable to the reſolution of the board of the 3d of May laſt.

A. Wm. SENIOR.

Read the Company's orders on this ſubject, contained in the 20th, 21ſt, 22d, 23d, 24th, and 25th paragraphs of their letter of the 8th of January 1764.

In conſequence of theſe opinions and orders, it is

Reſolved, that all European agents be recalled; and that they do leave the reſpective places of their reſidence in the country, in ſuch time as to arrive in Calcutta, by the 31ſt of December.

Ordered, that notice be accordingly publiſhed here, and at all the ſubordinate factories, requiring the conſtituents of all ſuch agents to pay due obedience thereto, and tranſmit to them in time the proper information and orders. And

Agreed, that a ſcheme be prepared for reſtraining and carrying on the inland trade, agreeably to the ſpirit of the Company's orders.

No. 11.

Company's Letter to Bengal 8th February 1764.

8. IN the courſe of our enquiry into theſe tranſactions, we obſerve, one Cole, ſaid to be a writer, is complained of, for that at Munaur Gunge Haut, which produces annually 12,000 rupees, he had turned out all the inhabitants, in order to build an houſe, as ſet forth in a letter entered after conſultation of the 18th of October 1762; who this Cole is we are not informed, but let him be whom he may, you are to make a ſtrict enquiry into the ſaid outrage; and if you find him guilty of it, you are, in the firſt place, to oblige him to make a ſuitable and ample ſatisfaction to the injured parties, and then immediately ſend him away to Europe.

9. We further find, that ſeveral perſons reſiding under the preſidency of Bengal, as well free merchants as others, have conducted themſelves very unwarrantably, carrying on their trade in ſeveral parts of the country, in the moſt uncontroulable manner, and thereby expoſing the Company's valuable privileges to the greateſt detriment and hazard; ſome of whoſe names, who appear the moſt remarkable, are Meſſieurs Chevalier Texeyra, Ivy, Motte, Robinſon, and the before mentioned Cole; with reſpect to free merchants, they certainly by ſuch behaviour forfeit their covenants, and as to others, they have no right to the Company's protection, eſpecially if they are guilty of the irregularities laid to their charge; we ſhall therefore leave it to you to make a general enquiry into the behaviour of ſuch perſons who reſide any where under

your

your preſidency; and if you find their behaviour has been, or ſhall be, ſuch as may be really detrimental to the Company, you are to withdraw our protection from them, and ſend them away from Bengal as ſoon as you ſhall think fit, giving us from time to time an account of your proceedings with reſpect to every ſuch perſon.

23. As no agents or gomaſtahs are to reſide, on account of private trade, at any of the inland parts of the country, all buſineſs on account of licenced private trade is to be carried on by and through the means of the Company's covenant ſervants, reſident at the ſeveral ſubordinate factories as has been uſual.

No. 12.

Fort William, the 20th May 1765.

General Conſultation.

AGREED and ordered, in conſequence of the proceedings of the Committee laid before the board laſt council day, that public advertiſement be made, enforcing our orders already given for the return of the Engliſh, Portugueſe, and Armenian agents, employed in the different parts of the country, to the Preſidency; and requiring all whoever, moſt ſtrictly, to arrive by the firſt of Auguſt; and their conſtituents to give them due notice accordingly.

No. 13.

To Mr. Maltby.

SIR,

I Am directed by the Select Committee to acquaint you, That, in conſequence of the bad ſtate of your health, which you repreſent, four months, from the 21ſt inſtant, will be allowed you for collecting in your affairs; at the expiration of which, you are required to repair without further notice to Calcutta.

I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient Servant,

Fort William, the 27th June 1765.

(Signed) A. CAMPBELL, S. S. C.

No. 14.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council at Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

HAVING, in obedience to the directions of the Secret Committee, tranſmitted us under date the 15th ulto. for the recal of all Engliſh agents, ſent orders to all ſuch as we know of, reſiding in parts contiguous to Dacca, and to thoſe who are employed by us at Gualparraw, for their return to Calcutta in the ſpace of one month; we muſt now, my Lord and Gentlemen, from a full conviction of the real and great inconveniences and loſſes that will attend us, as well as ſome of thoſe agents by us employed, on ſo ſudden and immediate a recal, intreat that a longer ſpace of time may be allowed the following gentlemen, for the ſettling of their buſineſs, or putting it on ſuch a footing as we their employers may be as little ſufferers as poſſible; and we are more particularly urgent in behalf of thoſe gentlemen reſiding at Gualparraw, from the impoſſibility of having that branch of buſineſs tranſacted by the natives, without ſuffering very conſiderable loſſes on account of the great diſtance, and their being free from all check and controul of their employers; and we do willingly conſent and agree, on ſuch indulgence being ſhewn us, to be reſponſible for the prudent conduct of our reſpective agents.

We are now to requeſt, my lord and gentlemen, that the additional ſpace of time you may be pleaſed to allow the following agents may be lengthened to the undermentioned term, from the date of granting the ſame,

To Mr. John Corſar at Gaulparrau, four months.
Mr. Robert Crawford, ditto ditto.
Mr. James Galloway at Corrigong, two months.

We are with due reſpect, my Lord and Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

Dacas, the 8th June 1765.

JOHN CARTIER,
FRAS CHARLTON,
THOS FRENCH,
WILLM SHEWEN.

No. 15.

To John Cartier, Eſquire, Chief, &c. Council at Dacca.

Gentlemen,

WE have received your letter of the 8th inſtant, to the Preſident and Council, which ought to have been addreſſed to the Select Committee.

To evince how ready we are to grant every reaſonable indulgence to thoſe free merchants, eſpecially who are employed as agents for the Company's ſervants, we do conſent to extend the time for their return to the preſidency to four months, as you requeſt.

At

At the same time we must acquaint you, that we are determined to put in execution the Company's orders, though with all possible regard for the interest of individuals.; and we desire you will inform the gentlemen of this our resolution.

Fort William,
14th June 1765.

We are with great regard, Gentlemen,
Your most humble Servants.

No. 16.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

MR. James Hargrave, who has resided some time at Rungpur, in order to finish some concerns there belonging to Mr. Henry Vansittart, acquaints us, that there are still outstanding several sums of money due from the people of that place for goods sold to them, and which he apprehends will be recovered with great difficulty, or probably lost, if he is obliged to quit the place directly.

We therefore take the liberty to request, you will grant him permission to reside there three or four months longer, which he informs us will be time sufficient for the purpose.

We are with great respect, my Lord and Gentlemen,

Fort William,
the 18th June 1765.

Your most humble Servants,
GEO. VAN SITTART,
HENRY PLOWMAN.

No. 17.

To the Right honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

IMmediately upon your order, regarding Europeans coming down from the country, I wrote to those who were employed by me, either on my own account, or on account of the estate of the deceased Mr. Robert Brown, to whom I am executor, that they should make all dispatch in finishing their business, so as to be here by the first of August, if it was in their power, without suffering any very great loss; but notwithstanding of this, there is one George Berner at Camp, collecting in money belonging to Mr Brown's estate, being from thence to come to Caragola upon the same account, where it will be necessary for him to remain a few months perhaps, if I can so far obtain your indulgence for him. There is also one Peter Petropoly, who went up with a fleet of salt, belonging to Mr. Billers and me, who has very lately stopped with the returning boats at Nabobgunge, where it will be absolutely necessary to repair them before they can be brought any further; a like indulgence for him therefore I shall esteem as a particular favour.

My Lord and Gentlemen, I further most humbly beg the favour and protection for two persons of this country, called Urban Saffer and Johannes Boedel; they entered into contract with me, on the 2d day of April last, under a very considerable penalty too, to transport a large quantity of salt to Patna, for which at a great charge they have now got the boats ready, and are loading.

They will be obliged to make two or more trips, and of course take several months before they will be able to finish their contract; but as their business is not to trade, but only to attend and take care of their boats, and the salt in them, they will want only your permission to purchase provisions, and to be allowed every necessary assistance that they may need, as they go along, on their faithfully and honestly paying for the same.

I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Calcutta,
the 18th July 1765.

Your most obedient humble Servant,
ARCHd KEIR.

No. 18.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,

I Am directed by the members of the Select Committee to acquaint you, that the several agents you employ in collecting your own affairs, and those of the estate of the late Mr. Brown, will be allowed to reside three months after the 21st instant for that purpose; that the time necessary for repairing your boats at Nabobgunge will be granted to Peter Petropoly; and that the persons with whom you have contracted to convey your salt to Patna will be suffered to fulfil their contracts, and to go up and down the river unmolested, provided they confine themselves strictly to that object.

I am, Sir,

Fort William,
the 11th July 1765.

Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. CAMPBELL, S. S. C.

No. 19.

No. 19.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President and Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

HAVING been jointly concerned with the late Mr. Billers in salt made in the collaries of the Honourable Company, which was all intended for the market of Patna, and being now the only surviving partner, I most humbly beg your permission for leave to go and reside at that place till the joint stock shall be all sold, and that I shall have collected the produce of the sales. Your favour in this will very greatly oblige me; who have the honour to be, with the utmost respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble servant,

Calcutta, the 7th August, 1765. ARCHIBALD KEIR.

No. 20.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,

I Laid your letter this morning before the Gentlemen of the Select Committee now in Calcutta, and have their directions to acquaint you, that they do not think themselves impowered, in the absence of a majority of the members, to grant you an indulgence, expressly contrary to the late positive resolution of the whole Committee, and the peremptory orders of the Court of Directors.

However, that in consideration of the peculiar circumstances you set forth, they will immediately forward your letter to Lord Clive and the other members, and request their opinion on the subject of your application.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Fort William, 10th August, 1765. (Signed) A. CAMPBELL, S. S. C.

No. 21.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Baron of Plassey, &c. &c. President and Governor, &c. Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

NOT having had no further notice taken of the letter which I had the honour to write you in August last, I had flattered myself with the hopes that my case, which you were pleased to say should be considered of, would have been found such by you, as to have excepted me out of your last general order, touching free merchants residing here. But as I find, by what was notified to me to-day, that my former representation has not had the effect which I expected from it, I must again beg your indulgence in stating my case to you in a more full and particular manner than what I have yet done, which I hope you will have the patience and goodness to hear.

My situation and circumstances are very widely different from that of any other private trader in Bengal, I believe; for I may justly and truly be considered as a company's merchant, who has bought a very large parcel of goods for a certain market, under direction of a chief and council, where I only want liberty to sell them: for I hired the Kallarus of the Honourable Company at a very advanced price, more than what any merchant who had before had them would venture to give them, in the year 1762, again in the year 1763, in conjunction with the deceased William Billers, Esquire, I hired them a second time, at a still higher rate; and the salt of these two years remains now on my hands, to the quantity of three lacks. But at the time when those Kellarus were taken, there was not the smallest intimation of people's being hindered going up the country to dispose of goods; of course there could be no occasion for my stipulations on indulgence; which would certainly have never been denied me, as it is well known that every encouragement that can be given was always granted to those who bought goods of the Honourable Company. For this reason, I have always had dustics with my salt; and this was the reason, I believe, which so readily engaged your Lordship, &c. to grant my request in June last, when I applied to you on account of those who had contracted with me for liberty to carry up my salt. What favours or indulgencies you may be pleased to shew to others, do not at all concern me; yet I cannot help observing, that if any private persons are to be indulged in this respect, whether as servants to the servants of the Honourable Company, or even on account of the Society of Trade, or otherwise, a Company's merchant will not be thought unworthy of the favour of being allowed to sell his goods (which he bought of the Company) in the best manner he can; more especially if it be considered, that for that purpose he requests only leave to reside at a chiefship; and that he is ready to enter into any bond, under any penalty, that he shall neither directly or indirectly, meddle with the country government at all, as I am ready to do whenever you think proper to require it: nay, I will even oblige myself to

be in every reſpect under the orders of the Chief and Council here, provided only I have but free liberty to ſtay and diſpoſe of my ſalt, with the protection of the Honourable Company.—That I did not apply to you for this indulgence at the time when I wrote to you for thoſe who were to bring up my ſalt, was, becauſe I did not then know that I ſhould have had any occaſion at all to have aſked ſuch a favour; for about that time I made propoſals to the executors of the deceaſed Mr. Billers, either to diſpoſe of the joint ſtock themſelves at Patna, or to ſell it to me; which laſt, being thought by them moſt beneficial for the eſtate, was accepted of, on my giving bond and ſecurity for the payment of the money; you will thus plainly perceive, therefore, that the neceſſity of my ſtaying at Patna is not entirely of my own ſeeking; nor would I have given you ſo much trouble, in thus earneſtly requeſting ſuch a favour, if my own fortune, as well as that of others, to a very conſiderable amount, did not ſo greatly depend upon it.

My Lord and Gentlemen, You will perhaps alledge, that I may conſign my ſalt to any gentlemen of the factory here, and that it will be as well taken care of as it could were I preſent: but firſt, as to the care, I ſhould beg leave to differ from you; for though I have the higheſt opinion of the worth and integrity of moſt of the gentlemen here, yet I can never imagine that any, who have ſo much buſineſs of their own and the Company, would ever be able, were they ever ſo willing, to pay that care and attention to my concerns as I ſhould do myſelf; as to ſelling, indeed, it is eaſily done, and requires little more than integrity; but for receiving and delivering ſuch a quantity of ſalt, there is induſtry and trouble to undergo, more than what I ſhall ever truſt to any other perſon in ſo large a concern, unleſs I am abſolutely obliged to it; there is in this, however, another matter which you may perhaps leſs attend to than me, and that is commiſſion, which I am to be under a neceſſity of paying, if I am not permitted to remain; for commiſſion, where it will amount to ſeveral thouſand pounds ſterling, as it would on the ſalt I have to diſpoſe of, is an object too conſiderable for one of my fortune to give up, if I can any ways poſſibly avoid it.

My Lord and Gentlemen, I am extremely ſenſible of the juſtice of your orders in general, of the ſervice it will be to the Honourable Company, and of the neceſſity there is for ſteadineſs in all the orders you give, without the appearance or even ſhadow of partiality to any one: I am ſenſible alſo of the difficulty you labour under, ſhould you be diſpoſed to favour me, though merely in conſideration of the equity and juſtneſs of my caſe; for the malicious and half-informed, who are much the greateſt part of mankind, are ever ready to impute to wrong cauſes, and complain of their ſuperiors, wherever they ſee favours granted to others, in which they are not themſelves ſharers; yet, if you are as much convinced of the equity and reaſonableneſs of my requeſt, as I would fain hope you and every impartial perſon will be who hear and attend to my circumſtances, you will find but little trouble, I imagine, to obviate every difficulty of that kind: will it not be reckoned preſumption, or may I venture to give a hint of what occurs to me on that head? You have appointed private people agents in the country for the affairs of the Society of Trade; and though the agency of this place, which will be very conſiderable, will moſt probably be intruſted with the gentlemen of the factory there, yet, if you thought proper, you might either name me as one of them, or if it were but clerk to the others I ſhould be entirely ſatisfied, and eſteem it a favour, or if that could not be done, I ſhould be contented to be again appointed ſurgeon in the ſervice, with liberty to remain here till a vacancy ſhould happen, which I believe will be very ſoon, Mr. Fullerton having informed me, that his intention is not long to continue here; and this is a favour which I flatter myſelf will not be refuſed me, both in conſideration of what I have already alledged, and in conſideration of my having formerly ſo long ſerved the Honourable Company in that ſtation, and of my having remained twice in India when I was going home, once at the requeſt of this Preſidency, and once at that of Fort St. George.

I ſhall be willing, in ſhort, to ſubmit to any thing by which I may be able to prove to you the very great reſpect with which I have the honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient, moſt humble ſervant,

ARCHIBALD KEIR.

Patna,
17th Oct. 1765.

No. 22.

To Mr. Archibald Keir.

Sir,

IN Anſwer to your addreſs to the Select Committee, the 17th Inſtant, I am directed to acquaint you, that, in teſtimony of the regard they pay to your particular circumſtances, the right honourable the Preſident and members conſent to your remaining at Patna till the firſt day of January next, at which time they will order a Company's ſervant to take charge, and diſpoſe of your ſalt to the beſt advantage.

This is an indulgence that has been extended to you alone; and a farther allowance of time they cannot grant, without deviating from, and fruſtrating the effects of, ſuch an order, which admits of no exceptions.

I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

(Signed) A. CAMBELL, S. S. C.

Fort William,
the 1ſt November 1765.

APPENDIX, No. 23, 24.

No. 23.

To Alexander Campbell, Eſquire, Secretary to the Select Committee.

Sir,

I HAVE this day received the letter you favoured me with the firſt inſtant, by order of the Committee; be pleaſed to return my moſt humble acknowlegements to the right honourable the Preſident and members for the indulgence they have granted me; acquaint them at the ſame time, that as this, they ſay, has proceeded from a teſtimony of their regard to my particular circumſtances, I ſtill flatter myſelf that the ſame regard to juſtice and equity will further engage them to think of ſome more effectual method to aſſiſt and relieve me; for I am ſtill under the greateſt anxiety with the thoughts of being obliged to leave this by the 1ſt January next, which it will be impoſſible for me to do without a very great loſs and hurt to my fortune.

I am, Sir,

Patna, Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

9th Nov. 1765. ARCHIBALD KEIR.

No. 24.

To the honourable Lord Clive, Preſident, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I WAS honoured with your anſwer to my letters the 17th October, by that from your Secretary of the 1ſt November laſt; your having therein granted me a ſmall indulgence in teſtimony of your regard to the peculiarity of my circumſtances, and mentioned that you would order a Company's ſervant to take charge of my affairs: I in return made you my moſt humble acknowledgements, and wrote to Mr. Campbell, that, the ſame circumſtances ſtill ſubſiſting, I ſtill alſo flattered myſelf with your further conſideration and indulgence; but the month of January being now well advanced, without any reply, or my hearing of any orders being iſſued with regard to me, I muſt once more take the liberty to trouble you, that I may know your final and peremptory reſolution, which, when I receive, I am reſolved to obey and conform to with the utmoſt expedition poſſible.

My lord and gentlemen, when before I had the honour to addreſs you, I endeavoured to ſtate my caſe to you in the beſt and moſt diſtinct manner I was capable of, which I am afraid was but badly enough, ſeeing that it ſeems to have had ſo very little effect; it is true, my intention then was rather to create your favour and indulgence, than with clear and ſolid arguments to aſſert to you the juſtice of my cauſe: I did imagine, indeed, that it being of itſelf clear and evident, and ſufficiently underſtood by your Lordſhip, &c. I ſhould thus more have recommended myſelf to your favour and protection, than if I had expreſſed myſelf otherwiſe, in claiming a right, which I have the moſt juſt and undoubted title to; but as it has happened contrary to my expectations, and that I hope it is not yet too late, I ſhall beg leave to repreſent in the moſt reſpectful manner, that having made a fair and open bargain with the Honourable Company for a large quantity of goods, with condition and permiſſion at the time of purchaſe to ſell and diſpoſe of the ſame under their protection, and at any of their factories; I look upon, and believe all the world beſides would look upon it, as a moſt manifeſt violation both of juſtice and equity, ſhould I be deprived of this my juſt right, under any pretence whatever. The ſale was made in the moſt public manner; Sic. Rupees, 10 per hundred maunds, and 30 and 10 for each kellary, beſides the price to the Molungus and all other charges: I purchaſed and paid for this ſalt with deſign and intention to ſell the ſame at Patna, or any other factory of the Company, or where the Company's protection could be of uſe to me, a truth which can never be denied; but to impoſe a new condition on a bargain to the prejudice of the purchaſer of it, were only not expreſsly mentioned in the original agreement, or contrary to the moſt manifeſt principles either of law or equity. Had the Honourable Preſident and agents for the Company, who ſold me the ſalt, declared to me ſoon after my making of the bargain, that I could not be permitted to ſell any at Calcutta, the Company having changed their preſidency, which they have it always in their power to do, to Fulto or any where elſe, would it not have been an act of the greateſt injuſtice? and, as his Majeſty's Juſtices, my lord and gentlemen, I beg to know your opinion, whether, in ſuch a caſe, I might not have had remedy againſt them at law? but I took the Callarys, and purchaſed my ſalt of the honourable Company with intention and deſign of diſpoſing of it at this Factory; ſo that to hinder me to reſide here on ſo juſt an account, when the greateſt part of it is already brought here, and the reſt upon the way by your own permiſſion, to me appears prety much the ſame, as if I had been prevented by thoſe other gentlemen from reſiding at calcutta, had I found it moſt my intereſt to diſpoſe of my goods there.

Your alleging, it is the honourable Company's order, to which I ought to ſubmit, is in argument, which, with all due ſubmiſſion to your Lordſhip, &c. I apprehend can have but ſmall weight: for, as the honourable Company, I am well perſuaded, never meant but the ſtricteſt juſtice to every one that they ever dealt with; ſo if, on the contrary, I or any one elſe is likely to be hurt by implication, or accidentally being comprehended in a general order, it is in your power, I imagine, to modify and explain them, that no reflection of that kind may either be caſt on yourſelves, or upon the honourable the Court of Directors. But that the honourable

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Company's orders are not abſolutely ſo very ſtrict as not to admit of certain latitudes, appears the more evident, from the permiſſions you have already granted, and which, as I am informed, you ſtill intend to grant, to many who have no ſuch plea as I have, I believe, for ſuch an indulgence.

In ſhort, my Lord and gentlemen, I muſt beg leave to declare to you, though with the moſt profound reſpect, that if you ſtill continue in the reſolution of bringing me down, and of tearing me from my property, and my right, you will do an act, which in the eyes of the world, I am afraid, will have more the appearance of a piece of perſonal pique and diſlike to me, than of any more honourable motive to myſelf: It can never be ſo, for as, to my knowledge, I have never given any perſonal offence to any of you; ſo, on the contrary, I have ever met with the greateſt civility and indulgence from all, and even many particular marks of friendſhip from almoſt every one of you, which I ſhall always greatly acknowledge; and I muſt declare, this is what has brought me to the reſolution of ſtrictly complying with your orders, whatever they may happen to be, or however contrary in my own judgment they may be, to what I have the juſteſt reaſon to look for and expect.

I have the honour to be, with the moſt perfect reſpect,
my Lord and gentlemen,
your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
ARCHd. KEIR.

Patna,
Jan. 12, 1766.

No. 25.

To Samuel Middleton, Eſquire, Chief, &c. Council, at Patna.

Gent'emen,

WHEN we reflect upon the very particular indulgence ſhewn by this Committee to Mr. Keir, in permitting him to remain at Patna, ſo long after the period fixed for the return of all the free merchants to the preſidency, we cannot help expreſſing ſome aſtoniſhment that he ſhould claim as a right, what we muſt conſider as a favour, granted out of mere regard to his particular circumſtances; ſuch indulgences cannot however be extended to individuals, to the injury of the Company, and the prejudice of the public, without our betraying the truſt repoſed in us by the Court of Directors: We therefore not only approve of Mr. Middleton's refuſing to grant him a duſtuck for his ſalt, to which he certainly has no better claim than all other free merchants, but we expreſsly direct, that he ſhall quit Patna by the laſt day of May next, and that you, or ſuch other of the Company's ſervants, reſiding on the ſpot, as he ſhall appoint, do take charge of the ſalt, and diſpoſe of it upon his account, to the beſt advantage you can, conſiſtently with the Intereſts of the country, and of the Society of Trade.

We are, gentlemen,
your moſt obedient ſervants.

Fort William,
the 13th March, 1766,

No. 26.

To the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. and Members of the Seleƈt Committee.

My Lord and genlemen,

No. 38. MR. Archibald Keir being on the point of his departure to Calcutta, has applied to us to take charge of his ſalt concerns here, which, in purſuance of your orders, we ſhall do; but muſt beg leave to obſerve to your Lordſhip, &c. that he expects we will diſpoſe of this ſalt free of commiſſion. We muſt here remark, that Mr. Keir having now the privilege of a duſtuck, has an equal advantage with a Company's ſervant reſiding in Calcutta, and from whom commiſſion is always received; we therefore hope you will think with us, that we have a juſt right to demand the ſame from Mr. Keir; but this we ſubmit to your Lordſhip's &c. and ſhall freely follow any directions you think proper to give on the occaſion; being, with much reſpect,

My Lord and gentlemen,
your moſt obedient humble ſervants,
SAM. MIDDLETON
P. M. DACRES.

Patna,
the 26th July 1766,

No. 27.

Extract of Letter from the Directors to the Seleƈt Committee, dated the 21ſt November 1766.

14. WE are well pleaſed to remark your attention to our orders, in calling down the free merchants; their proper employment is in the ſea ſervice, as captains and ſupra cargoes in the country trade, or ſettled as merchants in Calcutta; and if hereafter we find any infringement of our orders in this reſpect, we ſhall aſſuredly ſend for them home, and teſtify our diſpleaſure at thoſe who have protected them, or permitted them to go up the country; we are determined to have as few Europeans as poſſible diſperſed about the country;

you

you are to keep to the ſpirit of this our reſolution as much as poſſible, for we have the ſtrongeſt ſenſe of the injuries the natives have ſuffered from having Engliſhmen exerciſing an authority over them.

No. 28.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 19th February 1762.

43. BY the Directions we gave in our letter of the 1ſt of April 1760, we meant that the Nabob ſhould not be defrauded of his duties by an abuſe of duſticks, nor private traders oppreſſed; but as it appears by your advices of the 16th January 1761, that the farming the duties of the Nabob, or the other methods we had poined out, are not practicable, we muſt therefore acquieſce in their not being carried into execution; at the ſame time we repeat and enforce what we mentioned in our ſaid letter, that in all events the duſticks are to be upon ſuch a juſt footing as to ſecure the government their duties, and to enable the merchant to pay our cuſtoms.

44. It has been intimated, that ſome of our late ſervants had engroſſed the ſale of beetle and ſalt to their own great emolument, but highly prejudicial to the intereſt of the Nabob: As ſuch meaſures tend greatly to the embroiling our affairs, as well as being injurious to the community, we enjoin you to take the utmoſt care that neither our ſervants, or any perſon reſiding under our protection, have any concern in ſuch farms for the future.

No. 29.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 8th February 1764.

20. ONE general ſource of the diſputes, miſunderſtandings, and difficulties which have occurred with the country government, appears evidently to have taken its riſe from the unwarrantable and licentious manner of carrying on the private trade, by the Company's ſervants, their gomaſtahs, agents, and others; to the prejudice of the Subah, both with reſpect to his authority, and the revenues juſtly due to him; the diverting and taking from his natural ſubjects the trade in the inland parts of the country, to which neither we, or any perſons whatſoever dependant upon us, or under our protection, have any manner of right, and conſequently endangering the Company's very valuable privileges; In order therefore to remedy all theſe diſorders, we do hereby poſitively order and direct,

21. That from the receipt of this letter, a final and effectual end be forthwith put to the inland trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, tobacco, and in all other articles whatſoever, produced and conſumed in the country; and that all European and other agents or gomaſtahs, who have been concerned in ſuch trade, be immediately ordered down to Calcutta, and not ſuffered to return or be replaced as ſuch by any other perſons.

22. That as our phirmaund privileges of being duty free are certainly confined to the Company's export and import trade only, you are to have recourſe to and keep within the liberty therein ſtipulated and given, as nearly as can poſſibly be done; but as by the connivance of the Bengal Government, and conſtant uſage, the Company's covenant ſervants have had the ſame benefit as the Company with reſpect to their export and import trade, we are willing they ſhould enjoy the ſame, and that duſticks be granted accordingly; but herein the moſt effectual care is to be taken that no exceſſes or abuſes are ſuffered, upon any account whatſoever, nor duſticks granted to any others than our covenanted ſervants as aforeſaid; however, notwithſtanding any of our former orders, no writer is to have the benefit of a duſtick until he has ſerved out his full time of five years in that ſtation: Free merchants, and others, are not intitiled to, or to have the benefit of, the Company's duſticks, but are to pay the uſual duties.

24. We are under the neceſſity of giving the beforegoing orders, in order to preſerve the tranquillity of the country, and harmony with the nabob; they are rather outlines than complete directions, which you are to add to and improve upon, agreeable to the ſpirit of and our meaning in them, as may be neceſſary to anſwer the deſired purpoſes; and if any perſon or perſons are guilty of a contravention of them, be they whomſoever they may, if our own ſervants, they are to be diſmiſſed the ſervice; if others, the company's protection is to be withdrawn, and you have the liberty of ſending them forthwith to England, if you judge the nature of the offence requires it.

25. We cannot avoid in this place taking notice of the endeavours of Preſident Van Sittart, to form a plan of regulations, which, though it appeared ſo advantageous to individuals, was ſtrongly cenſured by the majority of the council, as not giving them, according to their way of judging, a ſufficient ſcope for their unwarrantable trade; however, we are ſatisfied of the preſident's good intentions; but at the ſame time we ſay, it was not calculated ſo as to prevent future miſunderſtandings with the Subah, and his government, becauſe thereby an inland trade was to be admitted of, which, as has been obſerved, would certainly be attended with conſtant embroils and difficulties.

No. 30.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal 1st June 1764.

54. FOR the reaſons given in our letter of the 8th of February laſt, we were then induced to ſend poſitive orders to put a final and effectual end to the inland trade in ſalt, beetle nut, tobacco, and in all other articles whatſoever, produced and conſumed in the country: to the remarks we made in that letter, we muſt add one obſervation; which is, it appears very extraordinary, that, in a trade ſo extremely lucrative to individuals, the intereſt of the company ſhould not have been at all attended or conſidered.

55. Thoſe orders were ſent, it is true, before we received the new Treaty you entered into with Jaffier Aly Cawn, upon his re-eſtabliſhment in the Subahſhip; in which it is agreed, That the Engliſh ſhall carry on their trade by means of their own duſtick, free from all duties, taxes, and impoſitions, in all parts of the country, excepting the article of ſalt, on which a duty of 2½ per cent. is to be levied on the Rowanna, or Houghly market-price; wherein it is further agreed, That the late perwanahs iſſued by Coſſim Aly Cawn, granting to all merchants the exemption of all duties for the ſpace of two years, ſhall be reverſed and called in, and the duties collected as before.

56. Theſe are terms which appear to be ſo very injurious to the Nabob, and to the natives, that they cannot in the very nature of them tend to any thing but the producing general heart burnings and diſſatisfaction; and conſequently, there can be little reaſon to expect the tranquillity of the country can be permanent: The orders therefore, in our ſaid letter of the 8th of February, are to remain in force until a more equitable and ſatisfactory plan can be formed and adopted; which, as it is impoſſible for us to frame here, deſtitute as we are of the Informations and lights neceſſary to guide us in ſettling ſuch an important affair,

57. You are therefore hereby ordered and directed, as ſoon after the receipt of this as may be convenient, to conſult the Nabob as to the manner of carrying on the inland trade in ſalt, beetle nut, tobacco, and the other articles produced and conſumed in the country, which may be moſt to his ſatisfaction and advantage, the Intereſt of the company, and likewiſe of the company's ſervants.

58. You are thereupon to form a proper and equitable plan for carrying on the ſaid trade; and tranſmit the ſame to us, accompanied by ſuch explanations, obſervations, and remarks, as may enable us to give our ſentiments and directions thereupon in a full and explicit manner.

59. In doing this, as before obſerved, you are to have a particular regard to the intereſt and intire ſatisfaction of the Nabob, both with reſpect to his revenues, and the proper ſupport of his government: In ſhort, this plan muſt be ſettled with his free will and conſent, and in ſuch a manner as not to afford any juſt Grounds for complaint.

60. In the next place, the utmoſt care and attention muſt be beſtowed, in forming the ſaid plan, that in ſome proper mode or ſhape a juſt and equitable conſideration be ſecured for the company.

61. If any inconveniencies ſhall be apprehended to ariſe to the company's Inveſtments, upon carrying on ſuch an inland trade, you are to give us your full thoughts thereupon, and in what manner they may be obviated.

62. You are to give us your impartial and unbiaſſed thoughts alſo, whether the carrying on this inland trade may affect the juſt rights and privileges of the French, Dutch, or any Europeans, and tend thereby to draw on any national altercations and embroils; which are by all means to be avoided in forming the ſaid plan: Therefore you are to be particularly careful to prevent theſe, or any evils of the like kind.

No. 31.

Fort William General Conſultation, the 25 January 1765.

WE obſerve the ſentiments and orders of the court on the ſubject of the inland trade, contained in the 54 and ſubſequent paragraphs to the 64: but as Lord Clive, and the other Gentlemen, may be now ſo ſoon expected to arrive, it is agreed to defer, for the preſent at leaſt, any further proceedings thereon.

No. 32

Fort William Select Conſultation, 17th October 1764.

The Engliſh Gomaſtahs in the Diſtricts of Dacca, Rungamatty Chilmary, and Bakergunga, &c. force tobacco and other goods upon the Talookdars, and Ryotts, whereby the country is deſolated, and a very heavy loſs falls upon the Sircar; it is proper that a ſtop ſhould be every where put to this oppreſſion, that the country may flouriſh, and the inhabitants may pay their rents in ſecurity, and my revenues may not ſuffer.

The poor of this country, who uſed always to deal in ſalt, beetle nut, and Tobacco, &c. are now deprived of their daily bread by the trade of the Europeans; whereby no kind of advantage accrues to the Company, and the government's revenues are greatly injured.

In

IN conſequence of theſe repreſentations from the Nabob, and the Company's orders in their letter of the 8th of Febuary 1764,

It is reſolved, that the inland trade; that is, the articles produced in one part of the country, to be carried for ſale and conſumption to another, ſhall in general be prohibited, with ſuch exceptions as ſhall appear to the board may be admitted, without the danger of creating diſputes with the government, or depriving the Nabob of his juſt rights.

After mature conſideration of the ſubject, and recollection of all the diſputes that have happened, and the complaints which have been made by the government ſince this inland trade has been taken up; we think that one, and one only exception can be made, conſiſtently with the ſpirit of the Company's orders; and that is, that it may be permitted to the company's ſervants to ſend ſalt and beetle nut for ſale to the factories of Patna, Coſſimbuzar, and Dacca, or the capital cities of Patna, Moorſhedabad, and Dacca, thereunto adjoining, paying to the country government, on the article of ſalt, the duties agreed on with the Nabob in the laſt treaty, and on the article of beetle nut, a like duty of 2½ per cent. on the price of the Chaundpore Market, and a Company's duſtick ſhall be given them along with the Company's Rowanna.

Our reaſons for thinking this exception may be admitted, are,

Firſt, with reſpect to the objection of diſputes: among the many inſtances we have had we do not find any touching the ſales of ſalt or beetle nut, at any of theſe places.

Secondly, with reſpect to the objection of the Nabob's revenues: ſince we relinquiſh every advantage that he ceded by his treaty of laſt year, with regard to his trade, we may, without imputation of injuſtice, reſerve ſo much as is here meant, unleſs any inconvenience, whichat preſent we do not foreſee, ſhould be found to ariſe from it.

But it ſhall be expreſsly forbid to all the Company's ſervants, and others reſiding under the Company's protection, to raiſe ſalt works (as Collaries or Toffals) or make ſalt upon the grounds, in any part except the territories appertaining to the Company. All claims to any ſuch grounds ſhall be immediately relinquiſhed; and application will be made to the Nabob, on behalf of the claimants, to order the Zemindars to diſcharge in money ſuch balances of former years, and advances of this ſeaſon, as may appear to be juſtly due, upon examination of the accounts with the Molungees.

As from a delay in executing this reſolution, the Zemindars may pretend and complain of the loſs of the ſeaſon for carrying on their buſineſs, and raiſe difficulties in adjuſting the accounts;

Agreed, that the reſolution be recited, in letters to be immediately wrote to Dacca, Chittagong, Midnapore, and Burdwan, with directions to carry the ſame into execution, ſo far as regards their reſpective factories: and

Ordered, that the drafts of theſe orders be entered after conſultation.

The Company's ſervants, who ſhall trade in ſalt to the places herein before expreſſed, ſhall take the greateſt care that their Gomaſtahs do deliver up the duſtick to the Company's Chief, and the rowanna to the Naib of the government, on the ſalt's being landed at the factory or city to which it is conſigned; our intentions herein being to enforce our reſolutions, that the ſalt ſhall be actually and bona fide ſold at one of the foreſaid factories or cities, and not circulated through the country, under the influence of the Engliſh name, or Duſtick.

To the end that theſe regulations, when publiſhed, may take effect within a reaſonable time, ſo that on the one hand the merchants may not ſuffer from their preſent engagements in the articles of this trade; and on the other, that an opening may not be left for the continuance of this trade longer than may be neceſſary for the finiſhing thoſe engagements;

It is agreed and ordered, that the ſecretary do give public notice of them, both here and at the ſubordinate factories; forbidding from this day, all Company's ſervants, free merchants, and others, reſiding under the Company's protection, to make any new purchaſes, or enter into any new contracts which may involve them further in the prohibited trade; and directing them to deliver in, within the ſpace of ſeven days, an account of the goods of this trade that they may have remaining at every place, with the intended place of their deſtination for ſale; upon an examination of which, a reaſonable time will be allowed for concluding ſuch ſales.

Although we imagine the reſtraint we have now laid upon the inland trade will put an end, for the moſt part, to that unjuſt manner of dealing called Burja, or Guchowt; yet, leaſt it ſhould be ever attempted in the ſale of any articles of licenſed trade, it is hereby

Ordered, in the ſtricteſt manner, that no perſon trading under the Company's protection ſhall, on any pretence, force the merchants or people of the country to buy goods which they do not want, or to give a price above the market; and whoever ſhall be found to be guilty of infringing this order, ſhall be puniſhed with the utmoſt rigour.

Agreed therefore, that the ſecretary do alſo make this reſolution public; and that the Nabob be deſired to make it known to his officers, deſiring them to complain to the neareſt Engliſh factory, if any ſuch attempts ſhould be made by Engliſh Gomaſtahs within their Juriſdiction.

Upon the whole, it is agreed to repreſent to the Nabob, that all our attempts to reform the grievances he complains of will be ineffectual, unleſs his officers at the ſeveral chokies and cuſtom houſes will be attentive to let no boats paſs with merchandize, without firſt ſeeing the

Company's

Company's duſtick, as directed in the reſolution on article ſecond: and further, as we are informed that he has indulged ſome Engliſh gentlemen, free merchants, with general duſticks, which will give them a privilege of trade far more extenſive than we ſhall now permit, even to Company's ſervants, it will be abſolutely neceſſary that he do withdraw all ſuch indulgences, and refrain from granting any in future; otherwiſe theſe regulations can be of no effect.

No. 33.

Fort William, the 10th Auguſt 1765.

At a Select Committee; PRESENT,

W. B. Sumner, Eſquire, Preſident,

Harry Verelſt, Eſquire.

IN conformity to the honourable Company's orders, contained in their letter of the 1ſt of June 1764, the Committee now proceed to take under their conſideration the ſubject of the inland trade, in the articles of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, the ſame having been frequently diſcourſed of at former meetings, and Mr. Sumner having lately collected the opinions of the abſent members at large on every circumſtance; it is now agreed and reſolved, that the following plan for conducting this trade ſhall be carried into execution, the Committee eſteeming the ſame the moſt correſpondent to the Company's orders, and conducive to the ends which they have in view, when they require that the trade ſhall be put upon ſuch a footing as may appear moſt equitable for the benefit of their ſervants, leaſt liable to produce diſputes with the country government, and wherein their own intereſt, and that of the Nabob, ſhall at the ſame time be properly attended to and conſidered.

Firſt, that the whole trade ſhall be carried on by an excluſive Company formed for that purpoſe, and conſiſting of all thoſe who may be deemed juſtly intitled to ſhare; that a proper fund ſhall be raiſed, by a loan at intereſt, for the ſupply and ſupport of the ſame, and that it ſhall commence in the month of September enſuing, or as ſoon after as may be found moſt convenient.

Secondly, that the ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, produced in, or imported into, Bengal, ſhall be purchaſed by this eſtabliſhed Company; and public advertiſement ſhall be iſſued, ſtrictly prohibiting all other perſons whatever, who are dependant on our government, to deal in thoſe articles.

Thirdly, that application ſhall be made to the Nabob, to iſſue the like prohibition to all his officers and ſubjects of the diſtricts, where any quantity of either of thoſe articles is manufactured or produced.

Fourthly, that the ſalt ſhall be purchaſed by contract, on the moſt reaſonable terms, giving the preference to the factories of Dacca, Chittagong, Burdwan, and Midnapoor, for the produce of their reſpective diſtricts; to the Phouſdar of Houghley, and the other Zemindars, for the produce of Ingellee, Tumlook, Myſidole, &c. and to ſuch perſons as may offer the moſt reaſonable propoſals, for the quantity produced in the Calcutta lands.

Fifthly, that the beetle nut and tobacco ſhall, in like manner, be purchaſed by contract, under ſuch terms and conditions as, upon proper enquiry, ſhall appear to the managers to be moſt conformable to the intereſt of the concerned.

Sixthly, that the contractors for the ſalt ſhall agree to deliver it at certain fixed places, at a ſtipulated rate per ſ maunds, comprehending ſuch an advance upon their contracts with the Zemindars and Molungees, as may be eſteemed an equivalent to their riſk, trouble, and bad debts.

Seventhly, that as the advances will be made by the contractors to the Zemindars, &c. at certain periods of the ſeaſon, in the uſual manner, ſo ſhall the advance from the public Company to the contractors be made in proportion thereto.

Eightly, That the ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, thus purchaſed by the public Company, ſhall be tranſported to a certain number of places for ſale, to be *there*, and there only, diſpoſed of by their agents; and that the country merchants may then become the purchaſers, and again tranſport the articles whither they think they have the greateſt proſpect of profit.

That by this means, not only the frequent oppreſſions the inhabitants of the country have ſuffered, by Europeans having permiſſion to traverſe to every place for the ſale of thoſe commodities, will be put a ſtop to, but by thus reſerving to the natives and merchants a competent ſhare of the profits, both in the purchaſe and ſale, we may hope for the good effect of removing the general odium that has prevailed, from our ſeeking to deprive them of every part of that trade.

Ninthly, That as it is apprehended ſome difficulty will ariſe in ſecuring the produce of the Dacca and Chittagong diſtricts, by reaſon of the property of the lands being ſcattered in a number of hands, all dependant on the Government; it is agreed, that application ſhall be made to the Nabob for Perwannas on the ſeveral Zemindars of thoſe diſtricts, as well as thoſe of Houghley, &c. ſtrictly ordering and requiring them to contract for all the ſalt that can be made on their lands with the Engliſh alone, and forbidding the ſale to any other perſon or perſons whatſoever.

Tenthly,

Tenthly, That the Honourable Company ſhall either ſhare in this trade as Proprietors, or receive an annual duty upon it, as may appear to be moſt for their intereſt, when conſidered with their other engagements and demands at this Preſidency.

Eleventhly, That the Nabob ſhall in like manner be conſidered, as may be judged moſt proper, either as a Proprietor, or by an annual Nuzzerana, to be computed upon inſpecting a ſtatement of his duties on ſalt in former years.

Twelfthly, That the manner in which the Honourable Company and the Nabob ſhall be conſidered being once determined, the remainder of this trade ſhall be divided amongſt the Company's ſervants, arranged under certain claſſes, and each claſs to ſhare a certain proportion of the capital ſtock.

Thirteenthly, That a Committee of trade ſhall be appointed to receive the management of this plan, and proſecute the ſame in all its branches; and that they ſhall be immediately authorized to take meaſures for raiſing the ſund at intereſt, and to receive propoſals and ſettle the contracts; and further, that for their aſſiſtance in this work, a perſon ſhall be appointed in the quality of their ſecretary and accomptant: the foregoing regulations, the ſelect Committee judge, will be found a ſufficient ground work for commencing this trade, to be improved hereafter as circumſtances may occur and direct; and it is therefore "Agreed" that they be delivered over to the Committee of Trade, as ſoon as they are appointed, with inſtructions to proceed in raiſing the money and making the contracts.

The points contained in the 10th, 11th, and 12th regulations, as their not being adjuſted need be no impediment to the proſecution of the buſineſs, ſo the Committee eſteem them of ſo much importance, that the ſettlement of them ſhould be delayed until the abſent members return to Calcutta, and they can be deliberated on at a full Committee:—Agreed therefore, that the Committe of Trade be alſo adviſed of this reſolution; and that they ſhall be hereafter informed of the diſtribution which may be ſettled, with any other regulations which may occur relative thereto, for their government.

Mr. Sumner acquaints the Committee, that, being appriſed of the intention contained in the third and ninth regulations, he deſired Mr. Sykes, when he lately went up to Muxadabad, to apply to the Nabob for the neceſſary Perwannas for authorizing and facilitating this trade, and that he has accordingly received from that gentleman, Perwannas to this purpoſe, being 106 in number; the ſame he now preſents to the Committee, together with ſeveral papers of information which he has collected, regarding the produce of the different diſtricts, and the conditions that ſalt can be contracted for.

Ordered, that they be delivered over to the Committee of Trade for their guidance.

Taking now into conſideration the appointment of this Committe of Trade, the ſelect Committee are of opinion, that it ſhould be compoſed of two members of their body, and two gentlemen of the Council.

Agreed therefore, that we recommend to the Council to appoint two of their members to be joined with two of the Committee, to conſtitute this Board, and receive charge of the plan; and at the ſame time to appoint a proper perſon to the office of ſecretary and accomptant.

No. 34.

Fort William, General Conſultation, the 12th Auguſt, 1765.

THE Preſident lays before the Board an extract of the proceedings of a Select Committee, held the 10th inſtant, himſelf and Mr. Verelſt preſent; containing conſiderations on the Company's orders reſpecting the inland trade, and ſome regulations determined on in conſequence, as the ground work of a plan for carrying it on in future.

And the ſame have been peruſed.

Meſſrs. Leycester and Gray enter thereupon the following diſſents.

I diſſent to the powers aſſumed by the gentlemen of the Committee, of fixing any regulations for the carrying on of the inland trade, independant of, and without conſulting the gentlemen of the Council, as it is a power by no means delegated to them by the court of Directors; who point out in very expreſs terms, that the only object of thoſe powers lodged with the Select Committee is the reſtoring of peace and tranquillity to the provinces, then ſuppoſed in a very diſtracted ſtate. It is needleſs for me, at preſent, to give my ſentiments of the regulations themſelves, as the Committee have already determined on the plan.—And as it is on all occaſions expedient for the members of the Board to unite in carrying on the public buſineſs, ſo I declare myſelf ready, notwithſtanding this diſſent, to ſhare any trouble that this ſyſtem may occaſion to the other gentlemen of the Council, and to co-operate with my beſt endeavours, that the intended ſcheme may be carried into execution with all the benefits that can poſſibly reſult from it.

Mr. Gray diſſents from the proceedings of the Committee, this day laid before the Board: as the orders for the regulation of the trade of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, are immediately directed to the whole Board, he thinks no part of it are ſufficiently authorized, without the concurrence of the whole, to carry them into execution:—he means however, notwithſtanding this his diſſent, chearfully to obey the orders of the board in his appointment of a member of the Committee of Trade.

Theſe

Theſe diſſents having been entered:

Meſſrs. Sumner and Verelſt offer their ſervices, as members of the Committee, for carrying on this trade, upon the plan laid down.

And as Mr. Playdell is appointed chief of the factory of Chittagong, and Mr. Burdett has intimated his intention of reſigning the ſervice this ſeaſon.

Mr. Leyceſter and Gray are therefore appointed members from the Board.

Agreed, That we addreſs thoſe gentlemen, conſtituting them the Committee accordingly, for the management of this trade, and tranſmitting them the regulations of the Select Committee, with the ſeveral papers accompanying for their Government therein; authoriſing them, at the ſame time, to correſpond with the ſubordinate factories, and to purſue all ſuch meaſures as may, conformably to the plan, appear to them eligible and proper: And

That we give the neceſſary advice and directions, in conſequence, to the different factories.

No. 35.

Extract of a Letter to Aſcanius William Senior, Eſquire, Chief, &c. Council at Coſſimbuzar.

Gentlemen,

WE are to inform you, that we have now eſtabliſhed certain regulations for conducting the inland trade in the articles of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, agreeably to orders received from the Court of Directors, and that the ſame are to be immediately carried into execution, by a Committee of Trade, conſiſting of Meſſrs. Sumner, Verelſt, Leyceſter, and Gray, who are for that purpoſe authorized to correſpond with the ſeveral ſubordinate factories, and to take all ſuch meaſures as may appear to them proper; and we therefore direct, that you do pay a due regard to whatever inſtructions you may from time to time receive from them, in matters relative to this trade, and addreſs them accordingly in return.

Fort William, the 12th of Auguſt, 1765. We are, &c.

No. 36.

Fort William Select Committee Proceedings, 18 September, 1765.

RESUMING the conſideration of the plan for carrying on the inland trade, in order to determine with reſpect to the Company, and the claſſes of Proprietors, the Committee are unanimouſly of opinion, that whatever ſurplus monies the Company may find themſelves poſſeſſed of, after diſcharging their ſeveral demands at this Preſidency, the ſame will be employed more to their benefit and advantage in ſupplying largely that valuable branch of their commerce, the China trade, and in aſſiſting the wants of their other ſettlements; and that it will be more for their intereſt to be conſidered as ſuperiors of this trade, and receive a handſome duty upon it, than to be engaged as Proprietors in the ſtock; beſtowing therefore all due attention to the circumſtance of the Company's being at the ſame time the head and maſters of our ſervice, and now come into the place of the country government, by his Majeſty's royal grant of the Dewannee. It is agreed, that the inland trade in the above articles ſhall be ſubject to a duty to the Company, after the following rates, which are calculated according to the beſt judgment we can form of the value of the trade in general, and the advantage which may be expected to accrue from it to the Proprietors.

On ſalt, 35 *per cent.* valuing the 100 maunds at the rate of 90 A. Rs. and in conſideration hereof the preſent collaree duty to be aboliſhed.

On beetle-nut 10 *per cent.* on the prime coſt.

On tobacco 25 *per cent.* on ditto.

By this calculation, we hope may be produced a clear revenue to the Company, of at leaſt 100,000l. ſterling *per annum*; and ſhould it appear, upon further experience of the trade, That the profits will admit of an encreaſe in theſe rates of duties, we hereby reſolve, that a fair and impartial repreſentation of the ſame ſhall be made to our honourable maſters, in order to receive their directions, as it is our fixed determination to render them all poſſible ſatisfaction on this point.

With reſpect to the Proprietors, it is agreed and reſolved, That they ſhall be arranged into three claſſes; that each claſs ſhall be entitled to ſo many ſhares in the ſtock, and that a certain capital ſtock ſhall be agreed upon, in order to aſcertain the value of each ſhare.

According to this ſcheme, it is agreed, That claſs firſt ſhall conſiſt of the governor, five ſhares;—the ſecond, three ſhares;—the general, three ſhares;—ten gentlemen of council, each two ſhares; twenty ſhares:—two colonels, each two ſhares; four ſhares:—in all, thirty-five ſhares for the firſt claſs.

The claſs ſecond ſhall conſiſt of one chaplain, fourteen junior merchants, and three lieutenant-colonels; in all eighteen perſons: who ſhall each be entitled to one third of a councellor's proportion, or two thirds of one ſhare; and which makes in all twelve ſhares for the ſecond claſs. We mean always to include in this number ſuch junior merchants as the Company have thought proper to fix in the ſervice; who, as well as the factors in the next claſs, that may be reſtrained from riſing as covenant ſervants, ſhall, however, be entitled to their full ſhare of the advantages of this trade.

The

The claſs third ſhall conſiſt of thirteen factors, four majors, four firſt ſurgeons at the Preſidency, two firſt ſurgeons at the army, one ſecretary to the Council, one ſub-accomptant, one Perſian tranſlator, and one ſub-export warehouſekeeper; in all twenty-ſeven perſons: who ſhall each be entitled to one ſixth of a councellor's proportion, or one third of one ſhare; and which makes in all eight ſhares for the third claſs.

It is neceſſary, however, to be obſerved, That by this arrangement it is intended, and it is accordingly hereby ordered, that twelve ſhares in this trade ſhall be allotted to eighteen perſons, compoſed of the firſt ſenior and junior merchants, lieutenant colonels, and chaplain or chaplains; all exceeding that number of thoſe ranks, muſt ſtand excluded until they can be included in it; and chaplains, be they more or leſs, to be reckoned only as one ſenior or junior merchant.

That eight ſhares in this trade ſhall in like manner always be allotted to twenty-four perſons, compoſed of the ſenior factors, majors, ſurgeons, and the three officers above ſpecified; all exceeding that number of thoſe ranks are not to ſhare till they can be included in it.

The Committee have thus ſettled the arrangement of the claſſes, and the ſhares in the ſtock; but they leave to the Committee of Trade to aſcertain the amount of the capital, as they muſt be the moſt competent judges of what fund will be required.

That the trade may meet with no interruption, and for the better regulating the ſame, the Committee of Trade may, from time to time, form bye-laws, which having been communicated, approved, and ſigned to by the body of Proprietors, they (the Committee) ſhall be impowered to enforce and carry into execution.

That the books of the Society ſhall be opened the firſt of every September, and cloſed the 31ſt of the following Auguſt; that for the preſent year, all perſons, who ſhall from this time be deemed Proprietors, and whoſe names ſhall be enrolled by the Committee of Trade, agreeable to this ſcheme of diſtribution, ſhall be intitled to their proportion of profits ariſing on the trade, during the courſe of the year, whether abſence or death ſhould enſue; and ſo in all future years, after the names of the perſons, who may compoſe the claſſes, ſhall have been regularly enrolled.

Reſolved, That no perſon ſhall ſhare in a double capacity, and receive a benefit at the ſame time from his rank in the ſervice, and from ſuch employment as he may happen to enjoy.

Ordered, That a copy of theſe proceedings be prepared, and laid before the Council, that they may tranſmit the ſame, with their directions, to the Committe of Trade.

CLIVE,
WM. B. SUMNER,
JOHN CARNAC,
H. VERELST,
FRAS. SYKES.

No. 37.

Fort William General Conſultation, the 25th September, 1765.

THE Preſident lays before the Board a copy of the proceedings of the Select Committee, containing their concluſion of the plan for the inland trade, with reſpect to the Company, and the different claſſes of the Proprietors—And the ſame having been peruſed,

Agreed, It be tranſmitted to the Committee of Trade, with inſtructions to proceed agreeably thereto.

No. 38.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council at Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

WE have had the honour to receive your letter of the 25th ult. with the concluſion of the Select Committee's plan for carrying on the inland trade. We ſhall pay due attention thereto; and we have in conſequence enrolled the Proprietors of the ſtock for the preſent year.

The office of our Secretary and accomptant being vacated by Mr. Graham's appointment to Midnapore, we requeſt your lordſhip, &c. will grant us permiſſion to appoint Mr. Lawrell in his room.

We muſt alſo take this opportunity to requeſt your permiſſion to nominate agents for tranſacting the buſineſs of the ſociety in the different parts of the country. We ſhall be very careful to make choice of the moſt unexceptionable perſons for this purpoſe; and we ſhall cauſe them to enter into ſuch engagements you ſhall think proper to preſcribe for regulating their conduct, and to prevent their interfering with the buſineſs of the country government.

We have the honour to be,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,

WM. B. SUMNER,
H. VERELST.
R. LEYCESTER,
GEORGE GRAY.

Fort William, 21ſt October, 1765,

APPENDIX, No. 39, 40, 41, 42.

No. 39.

Fort William, Select Committee, 29th October 1765.

HAVING perused a letter from the Committee of Trade, desiring leave to appoint a secretary in the room of Mr. Graham, and agents, to conduct the business of the society in the different parts of the country;

Agreed, we write them, that we entirely approve of their choice of Mr. Lawrell for secretary and accomptant.—Also, that as they seem to think the business of the Society will require European agents, we consent to their nominating persons of approved character, who shall enter into such engagements and restrictions as we may judge necessary for regulating their conduct, and securing the country from disturbance, and the natives from injury or molestation.

We also consent that they appoint four European agents to build boats for the society at Nabob Gunge, and Buker Gunge, who shall enter into similar engagements.

No. 40.

To Wm. Brightwell Sumner, Esq; and the gentlemen of the Committee of Trade.

Gentlemen,

YOUR letter of the 21st instant to the president and council, having been referred to the Select Committee, we highly approve your intention to appoint Mr Lawrell to succeed Mr. Graham in the office of your secretary and accomptant.

We likewise consent that you nominate agents for transacting the business of the society in the different parts of the country, since you consider this measure as necessary to the due execution of your plan; but we must request that all these gentlemen must be persons of unblemished character; that they be approved by the Select Committee, and bound down by such engagements and restrictions as we may judge necessary to secure the country against disturbances, the natives from injury and molestation, and the government from future cause of complaint.

We are with great esteem,

Gentlemen,

Fort William, the 1st Nov. 1765. Your most obedient humble servants.

No. 41.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, President, &c. Members Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

WE have had the honour to receive your favour of this date. In consequence of the permission therein contained, we have appointed the following gentlemen to reside as agents for transacting the business of the Society of Trade, at the undermentioned places, viz.

Mr.	Hugh Baillie,	to reside at	Gualparah.
	Charles Blomer,	— —	Dinagepore.
	Pitt Lithieullier,	—	Durbunga.
	Tom Lewis,	— —	Rungpore.
	Jno Corsar,	— —	Surhit.
	Wm. Bensley,	— —	Carragolah.
	Jno. Robinson,	— —	Nabob Gunge.
	Hargrave,	— —	Chilmarie,
	Wm. Haltby,	— —	
	Harry Grant,	— —	

The places of residence of the two last-named gentlemen will be determined hereafter, as well as what other places it may be thought necessary to send agents to.

We hope that this arrangement will meet with your lordship's, &c. approbation; and we request you will as soon as possible transmit us the regulations you would propose for the conduct of those, and such other agents as we may have occasion to appoint.

We have the Honour to be,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Fort William, 1st Nov. 1765. Your most obedient humble servants

W. B. Sumner.
H. Verelst.
George Grey.

No. 42.

Letter to William Brightwell Sumner, Esquire, and the Members of the Committee of Trade, dated Fort William the 5th November 1765.

Gentlemen,

YOU have represented to us, that the Society for conducting the inland trade will derive very particular advantages from entrusting the management of their concerns to European agents; and we have for this reason consented, under certain limitations, to a measure which

we

we could never otherwiſe approve—giving permiſſion to Europeans, not in the Company's covenanted ſervice, to reſide in different and remote parts of the country, opens ſo large a field for abuſe and oppreſſion, and is in itſelf ſo oppoſite to the expreſs injunctions of the Court of Directors, ſo contrary to the orders we have ſo lately iſſued, and ſo alarming to the natives in general, that ſuch indulgence can only be juſtified by neceſſity.

To obviate therefore, in the beſt manner poſſible, the inconveniences to be apprehended, we think it is our indiſpenſable duty, to lay ſuch reſtraints on the conduct of the gentlemen, who ſhall be employed in this ſervice, as appears to us beſt calculated to prevent future cauſe of complaint, and ſecure the peace and repoſe of the country.

To this end, we require that all European agents, on whatever ſervice employed by the ſociety, do ſubſcribe to the following reſtrictions before they leave the preſidency, and bind themſelves in a penal Bond of 30,000 rupees, to a ſtrict obſervance of the ſame, which penalty ſhall be levied on conviction of their breach of agreement, and applied at the diſcretion of the board, or of this Committee.

The reſtrictions we would enjoin, are the following, which, we think, ought to be ſpecified in the Penal Bonds, or drawn out into formal inſtruments, to be ſigned and ſealed before witneſſes, by the ſeveral agents.

1ſt. That they carry on no trade or commerce, either as agents or principals, except for the benefit of the whole Society of inland trade.

2d. That they lend no money to the Zemindars, the public officers, or other perſons any way connected with the government.

3d. That they aſſume to themſelves no judicial power or authority whatever; but in all caſes of difference or diſpute between them and the natives, apply for redreſs to the country government, and in caſe of delay or refuſal, to the Select Committee.

4th. That they neither interfere, directly nor indirectly, with any buſineſs relative to government, or by any means whatever give interruption to the collections, or juſt cauſe of complaint to the adminiſtration; but confine themſelves ſcrupulouſly and ſtrictly to the ſale of the ſalt, tobacco, and beetle nut committed to their charge, making ſuch returns of the produce as the ſociety may require, and expecting no other reward of their ſervices than the ſtated allowance by commiſſion on the above articles.

Theſe, gentlemen, are the principal reſtrictions which we think neceſſary, to avoid contradiction in our own reſolutions, and to ſecure the Company from injury, the miniſters from occaſion of complaint, and the natives from inſult and oppreſſion.

We are with great regard,
Gentlemen,
your moſt obedient ſervants.

No. 43.

To the Right Honourble Lord Clive, Preſident, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

My Lord, and Gentlemen,

THE following perſons,

Meſſrs. Hugh Baillie,
Charles Blomer,
Pitt Letheilleur,
Tom Lewis,
John Corſar,
Willam Benſley,
John Robinſon,
James Hargrave,

Agents for tranſacting the Society of Trade's Buſineſs, being about to proceed to their different ſtations, have applied for leave to diſpoſe of the ſalt now on hand, beloning to private traders.

We think it will be for the advantage of the ſociety, that ſuch ſalt as is now on hand, ſhould be ſold by your agents, on account of the perſons to whom it belongs, before the ſalt of the ſociety gets up; but as there is an article in the reſtrictions tranſmitted to us by your Lordſhip, &c. which forbids their receiving any private Commiſſions, we requeſt you will grant us permiſſion to inſert a clauſe, allowing them to diſpoſe of the ſalt, to prevent their forfeit of the penalty they would otherwiſe be ſubject to.

We are,
my Lord, and gentlemen,
your moſt obedient ſervants,
Wm. B. SUMNER,
H. WATTS,
W. SENIOR.

Fort William, 8th January 1766.

No. 44.

Fort William Select Conſultation, the 9th January 1766.

RECEIVED a letter from the Committee of Trade, requeſting leave for their agents to diſpoſe of the balances of ſalt belonging to private merchants, now on hand, which they imagine will conduce to the intereſt of the Society.

Agreed, We acquaint the Committee of Trade, that we grant their requeſt, in conſideration they think it will be a public benefit.

No. 45.

To William Brightwell Sumner, Eſquire, &c. Members of the Committee of Trade.

Gentlemen,

No. 1. WE conſent that the balance of ſalt belonging to private merchants, which are now on hand, ſhall be diſpoſed of by your agents, at the ſeveral ſtations to which they are appointed, ſince you are of opinion this Meaſure will conduce to the benefit of the ſociety; but we muſt deſire they will not think of extending this privilege beyond the particular article here ſpecified.

We remain,

gentlemen,

Fort William, January 9th 1766. your moſt obedient humble ſervants.

No. 46

To the honourable the Court of Directors for affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. WE have now the honour to tranſmit the ſequel of thoſe proceedings of the Select Committee which were diſpatched the 30th September by the Admiral Stevens, and alſo a duplicate of our letter of that date.

2. The conjectures we then formed, with reſpect to the ſyſtem which the Committee found it neceſſary to adopt, have in the event correſponded to our warmeſt expectations; and it is with extreme ſatisfaction we can aſſure you, that a happy proſpect is daily opening to our view of ſecurity and opulance to the Company; money flowing into your Treaſury; contentment expreſſed by the country government; and peace diffuſing the bleſſings througout every diſtrict of the Nabob's Dominions, are to us the moſt pleaſing teſtimonies of the rectitude of the meaſures we purſued when the late grants were obtained: The more we reflect on the ſituation of your affairs, the ſtronger appear the reaſons for accepting the dewanny of theſe provinces, by which alone we could eſtabliſh a power ſufficient to perpetuate the poſſeſſions, we hold, and the influence we enjoy; while the Nabob acted in quality of collector for the Mogul, the means of ſupporting our military eſtabliſhment depended upon his pleaſure; in the moſt critical ſituation, while we ſtood balancing on the extreme border of deſtruction, his ſtipulated payments were ſlow and deficient, his revenues were often witheld by diſaffected Rajahs and turbulent Zeminders, who deſpiſed the weakneſs of his government, or they were ſquandered in profuſion and diſſipated in corruption, the never failing ſymptoms of a declining conſtitution and a feeble adminiſtration; whence we were frequently diſappointed of thoſe ſupplies, upon the punctal receipt of which depended the very exiſtence of the Company in Bengal.

We cannot indeed look back without horror upon that deſperate criſis to which your affairs were reduced, when a mutinous ſpirit prevailed among your troops; when diſſentions diſtracted your conſultations; and a powerful enemy was invading the provinces, to ſeize and deſolate your poſſeſſions, and probably extirpate your ſervants, to us it evidently appears there remained but the alternative to advance, as we have done, and graſp at the whole power, or to ſhrink back into our primitive condition of ſimple merchants, to abandon our poſſeſſions, diſband our forces, and reſt our future hopes on the clemency of princes, who will not eaſily forget or forgive the ſuperiority we have ſo long maintained. In a word, this laſt meaſure was in itſelf impracticable; for we muſt obſerve, although with much regret, that the miſconduct of individuals hath rendered the Engliſh name ſo odious, that we are no longer ſecure than while our hands are armed for the Defence of our lives and property.

3. The ſeveral ſtatements, that go numbers in our packet, ſhew clearly the amount of revenues to be collected this year into the treaſury, excluſive of thoſe iſſuing from the provinces of Burdwan, Midnapoor, and Chittagong: the Calcutta lands, and all your former poſſeſſions, at preſent they ſtand encumbered with a variety of ſuperfluous charges, which we hope to reduce, when we come to adjuſt the collections of the enſuing year; but we thought it adviſeable to avoid introducing innovations, which might create diſguſt and diſſatisfaction, at ſo early a period of our government. The nett balance, amounting to 212 lacks of ſicca rupees, or

2,862,000

2,862,000 pounds ſterling, will be more readily paid, that the miniſters and officers of the government can have nothing to plead in excuſe for deficiencies; and we have reaſon to believe it will not fall ſhort of the ſtated amount. This balance is abundantly ſufficient to ſupply your China trade, provide for our own inveſtment, and defray all the expences of our civil and military eſtabliſhment. Whatever ſurplus may remain in the treaſury, after the ſtipends to the King and Nabob are diſcharged, and all other more immediate demands are anſwered, this, together with the revenues of Burdwan, &c. ſhall then be applied to relieve the wants of the other preſidencies, to pay off your bonds, and to ſuch other purpoſes as may appear to us moſt conducive to your intereſt.

4. Mr. Sykes, who was ſome time ſince appointed reſident at the Durbar, and ſuperviſor of the collections, hath now taken charge of the factory at Coſſimbuzar, upon Mr. Senior's application for leave to return to Europe; the great diligence he has exerted in ſettling the revenues, and forming the ſtatements, as well as attention ſhewn to the other ſeveral objects of adminiſtration, afford us the utmoſt reaſon to be highly ſatisfied with his conduct. He is daily making remittances, the firſt fruits of the collections, to the treaſury; whereby we are already enabled to ſet apart a ſupply of 24 laaks for your China inveſtment; 12 of which are now under diſpatch for Canton, the remainder will be ſent in the month of February to Madraſs, to be forwarded from thence to China by the earlieſt conveyance: when the collections of the year are cloſed, we have directed Mr. Sykes to enquire ſtrictly into the balances to the Government, and to uſe every poſſible endeavour to recover them, as we entertain the moſt flattering hope, that from theſe arrears will ariſe a fund ſufficient to diſcharge all the publick demands on the late Nabob, for which your honour may ſtand any way engaged.

5. Notwithſtanding all theſe immenſe revenues, of which the company is actually poſſeſſed, we muſt earneſtly requeſt your ſerious attention to the conſequences of our impoveriſhing the country by ſuch conſiderable annual exports of treaſure to China. We muſt alſo recommend that you deviſe ſome method of enabling your Servants, and the inhabitants of the ſettlement, to remit their own fortunes, and the effects of deceaſed perſons in their hands, by ſome other channel than that of bill on France and Holland: you are now in a ſituation which will never require your receiving private effects into the treaſury, to be able to compleat your own inveſtment: your collections are adequate to every purpoſe and demand which we can foreſee; the governor and council could not therefore, with any propriety, ſubject you to the inconvenience of anſwering bills, to the amount of forty or fifty laaks, merely for the benefit of your ſervants, and ſuffer your own money to lie dead and unappropriated in the treaſury; indeed we were particularly cautious of drawing largely for this year, in order that you might be able to diſcharge your more immediate and preſſing engagements at home; yet ſhould the neceſſity continue of remitting private property by foreign funds, the French and Dutch will not only be enabled thereby to provide early and valuable inveſtments, but the provinces will alſo be deprived of a very conſiderable addition to the current ſpecies, which thoſe nations will otherwiſe be obliged to import every year in ready money. To obviate as far as poſſible any immediate bad effects to the public from the above cauſes, the Preſident has now under conſideration, a propoſal to prevent the exportation of treaſure; from occaſioning a ſcarcity of money for ſome years at leaſt; yet as this propoſal rather tends to palliate, than effectually remedy the evil, it is from your inſtructions only that we are to expect a radical cure.

6. The opportunity which the reſtoration of peace affords for carrying into execution your orders, relative to the batta allowed to military officers, will greatly contribute to the increaſe of your ſurplus fund; thoſe orders, although reaſonable and neceſſary, could not however be conveniently enforced before public tranquillity, and military diſcipline and ſubordination, were firmly eſtabliſhed. It was alſo requiſite, before we entered upon a reduction of pay, to deviſe the means of their living cheaper, and of ſupplying them with liquors, and other ſtores, at a more moderate price than theſe articles had uſually been furniſhed. We muſt likewiſe obſerve, that regimenting the troops, hath not only conduced to the reformation we propoſed, but alſo facilitated the reduction of expence you enjoin. A ſoldier who knows and performs his duty, will neither expect nor require the ſuperfluities and luxuries of life.

Accordingly we have ordained, that on the firſt day of the preſent month the batta ſhould be ſtruck off from the troops in general, excepting the brigade ſtationed in Shujah Dowla's dominions; who on account of the high price of proviſions, and the difficulty of procuring ſtores, will be allowed double batta in the field, and half double batta in cantonments and in garriſon, until they are recalled to the provinces: for the ſame reaſons half batta is continued to the troops quartered at Patna and Mungheer; but the reſt of the army, we mean the detachments at Subordinates and other places, that are not engaged in actual ſervice, are reduced preciſely on a footing with the company's forces upon the coaſt; even thoſe ſtationed at Mongheer and Patna receive the ſame exact batta as your troops at Trichinopoly. From ſuch regulations, and alſo from the check given to the many ſhameful abuſes committed in muſters, returns, hoſpital bills, boats, and other articles, we may affirm with confidence, that the charges of your whole eſtabliſhment, civil and military, including your fortifications, will fall ſhort of the amount expended during the courſe of the late war on your army alone; and yet it is propoſed, if you ſupply us duly with recruits, to maintain the complete eſtabliſhment projected by Lord Clive, and the moſt formidable army that ever took the field in Bengal. From what cauſes

your

your military expences ſwelled to ſuch immeaſurable bounds requires no explanation; certain it is they far exceeded the ſupplies ſo liberally voted by the Britiſh Parliament for an army of auxiliaries employed to oppoſe the combined forces of the moſt powerful Princes in Chriſtendom.

7. To theſe ſchemes of Æconomy, permit us to add the late reſolution of this Committee regarding the new works erected for the ſecurity of your ſervants and property: theſe works have for ſeveral years paſt been a perpetual drain for treaſures, which might have been more uſefully applied; yet ſhould we ever meet with the misfortune of being driven off the field, and cooped up within the walls of this fort, your affairs may then be conſidered as deſperate and irrecoverable; it is therefore the unanimous opinion of this committee, confirmed by the ſentiments of the chief engineer, that we ought to regard the new works as a temporary ſecurity only; for which purpoſe the ditch, ramparts, baſtions and ravelin, already finiſhed, are ſufficient to withſtand the greateſt force which the powers of this country are ever likely to aſſemble. Captain Martin further delivers it as his opinion, that enlarging the fortifications, conformably to the plan of the intended outworks, would add nothing to the ſtrength of the place; unleſs we could at the ſame time maintain a garriſon proportioned to their extent. We reſolved therefore not to proceed on the plan, beyond what is now completed; but to uſe all poſſible means to check the incroachments of the river, which hath advanced within a very few yards of the covered way, and threatens to ſweep away one intire ſide of the fort. We will alſo make all the diſpatch we are able in completing the barracks, ſome of which we have converted into very commodious apartments for the writers lately arrived; and are convinced it would be much for the benefit of the ſervice if all the younger ſervants, and the public officers, were collected within ſo narrow a compaſs as might ſubject them to cloſer inſpection than is poſſible in their preſent ſituation.

8. Mahomed Reza Cawn, and the miniſters we aſſociated with him, to conduct the buſineſs of the country government, proceed with alacrity and unanimity, under the direction of Mr. Sykes, the Reſident; they, as well as the people in general, expreſs great ſatisfaction at the orders now lately iſſued and inforced, by recalling to the preſidency all free merchants and other Europeans, who are not in your covenanted ſervice; many of whom had, by interfering with public affairs, by acts of oppreſſion and violence, and by aſſuming and exerting a judicial authority, totally perverted the ordinary courſe of juſtice, and given great interruption to the buſineſs of the adminiſtration: yet we muſt lament that the juſt and neceſſary puniſhment inflicted upon thoſe who had committed abuſes ſhould unavoidably extend to others, who always acted with integrity and honour.

9. The more effectually to remove every cauſe of complaint, and render the miniſters reſponſible for the collection of the ſtated revenue, we have directed that none beſides thoſe who are employed in certain public ſtations, ſhall in future correſpond with the officers of the government, hold lands, lend money to the Zemindars, or take any other means of improving their fortune, or acquiring influence in the country, that may tend to diſturb, diſtreſs, or defraud, either the adminiſtration or the people; and this prohibition we have extended to all our ſervants, civil and military, and their dependants. It was the earneſt requeſt of the miniſters that we ſhould impoſe ſuch reſtrictions; and we thought compliance but reaſonable, as we were well aſſured that the revenue had ſuffered from the exceſs to which theſe practices were carried.

10. In one inſtance, however, we have taken the liberty of deviating from your orders for recalling the free merchants, &c. the plan for conducting the joint inland trade in the articles of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, is in itſelf ſo extenſive, the capital required ſo very conſiderable, and the difficulty of procuring money at a moderate intereſt ſo great, that it becomes indiſpenſably neceſſary the accounts of the ſociety ſhould be cloſed, and their books balanced with more diſpatch than can be expected, ſhould black gomaſtahs and agents be employed: for this reaſon, and becauſe we are willing to promote, to the utmoſt of our power, a ſcheme that appears well calculated from your intereſt and the public benefit, we have permitted the Committee of Trade to appoint European agents for diſpoſing of the ſociety's concerns at certain eſtabliſhed marts in different parts of the country: and for this purpoſe, Company's ſervants could not be ſpared from the preſidency and ſubordinates; thoſe agents are therefore choſen from the liſt of free merchants, with the utmoſt attention to their character and former behaviour; beſides which, we have ſtrictly confined them to the buſineſs of the ſociety, by ſuch ſevere penalties and reſtrictions as we think muſt effectually prevent their giving offence or moleſtation: ſhould we find theſe limitations inſufficient to ſecure the peace of the country, and remove all cauſe of complaint, we are then determined to recal them, and commit the buſineſs to black agents.

11. Further to aſſiſt this valuable branch of commerce, and promote the credit of the infant ſociety, the governor and council have, at the requeſt of the committee, ſigned and executed a deed, for the better ſecuring the ſociety the free and excluſive purchaſe and ſale of the articles of ſalt, &c. from the firſt of September 1765 to the 30th of Auguſt 1766, allowing a ſufficient time to diſpoſe of ſuch ſtock as may be provided for the ſeaſon, in order to prevent the great loſs that muſt ariſe to the proprietors, ſhould any alteration take place by your order, after the concerns for the year are begun, and before the ſame are concluded. We herefore flatter ourſelves with your entire approbation of this meaſure, ſo eſſential to the

due execution of the plan formed by your permiſſion, and with all poſſible regard to your intereſt.

12. Our proceedings point out clearly the increaſe of your rents iſſuing from the Calcutta lands; and the ſeveral minutes entered upon that ſubject explain our ſentiments on the proſpect we have of rating the Purgunnahs ſtill higher, without exaction or oppreſſion. It evidently appears to us, that conſiderable frauds were formerly committed in theſe collections; with a view of correcting which, we have determined that the leaſes granted to the preſent farmers ſhould expire on the 1ſt day of September next; by that time we hope to find leiſure to aſcertain their value more exactly, at leaſt we ſhall then ſilence the clamour of the inhabitants againſt what they deem a monopoly, by univerſally diffuſing and extending the benefit ariſing from the poſſeſſion of lands, among the moſt ſubſtantial and reſpectable banyans and black merchants living under your protection.

13. Moſt earneſtly do we wiſh that ſuch ſhameful embezzlement of the public money were confined to thoſe lands, ſituated more immediately under the eyes of the governor and council, ſince nothing but the greateſt inattention and miſconduct could then prevent the detection of abuſes; but ſhould a general depravity of manners prevail, and your ſervants acting in the higheſt ſtations be reſtrained neither by motives of conſcience nor by principles of honour, the diſcovery of frauds at places remote from the preſidency will then become more difficult, and merely accidental: this evidently appears from the ſtate of the Midnapoor revenues, which for three years paſt have yielded 2,52,000 rupees more than ever were placed, as they ought, to the Company's credit. Our recalling the factory, and appointing Mr. Verelſt ſupervifor, and Mr. Graham reſident at Midnapoor, under his direction, brought this unwarrantable tranſaction to light, which might otherwiſe have lain in profound obſcurity, until chance had produced a reſident, whoſe ſenſe of honour and feelings of conſcience were ſtronger than the impulſes of private intereſt. For your further information, we beg leave to refer you to Mr. Verelſt's letter, and the ſtatement of thoſe revenues inſerted in the accompanying liſt of packet. Yet, fortunate to the Company as this diſcovery will certainly be conſidered, we muſt confeſs it occaſions great embarraſſment to our proceedings, unleſs we would deviate, on the one hand or the other, from that duty which we owe to our conſtituents. It was firmly our intention to avoid further retroſpection of the conduct of an adminiſtration ſo notoriouſly corrupt and meanly venal throughout every department, in hopes the examples already made would ſufficiently deter others, and work a reformation: It was the correction of abuſes, and not the puniſhment of miſconduct, that we propoſed; although we endeavoured to avoid expoſing ourſelves either to the cenſure of partiality, or the heavier charge of unfaithfulneſs to our employers. In this, as in many other inſtances, we conſider that a ſcrutiny into the particulars of the embezzlement would be unprofitable to you, when it would at the ſame time occaſion great obſtruction to our conſultations, and might end in the neceſſity of diminiſhing the number of your council, already much reduced by the death of one, the ſuſpenſion of another, and the reſignation of four members of the board. Muſt farther beg leave to obſerve, that we cannot help regarding the late reſident, as far leſs culpable than any of his immediate predeceſſors, who may be ſaid to have chalked out the path, and guided his ſteps by the falſe light that miſled him. Certain it is, that ſhould you diſapprove our lenity, the ſame decree in law or equity, which will oblige Mr. Watts to refund, will alſo oblige his predeceſſors to make reſtitution. From theſe conſiderations therefore, we reſolve to leave it in the option of your honourable board, to proſecute or relinquiſh your claim to ſuch balances as ought to have been applied to your credit; contenting ourſelves with giving you the neceſſary information of facts, and taking the moſt effectual means to prevent ſuch practices in future.

14. For reaſons of a ſimilar nature, we decline reſuming any further conſideration of the conduct of the board and deputation during the late negociations at Moorſhedabad. Already our conſultations have been too much interrupted with cavilling debate and faction: we are heartily ſick of the fruitleſs labour of raking in the jakes of corruption, and ſhould we enter upon freſh inquiries, we muſt again wholly ſuſpend the courſe of current buſineſs. You have before you ſufficient proofs whether the gentlemen diſtinguiſhed moſt zeal for your ſervice, or attachment to their own intereſt; and ſhould you be diſpoſed, for the ſake of example, to attempt the recovering of thoſe ſums, obtained ſo unwarrantably from the Nabob and his miniſters, we apprehend the evidences tranſmitted are ſtrong and explicit enough to ground an action upon in any court of judicature.

Pa. 15.—It remains with us to offer a few remarks upon that letter, which Mr. Johnſtone ſent into the board, juſt as the Admiral Stevens was under ſail; as if he apprehended, leaſt ſome bold aſſertions he advanced, might be refuted before he was out of reach of the ſhame conſequent on detection; many of theſe aſſertions are ſo mean, ſo contrary to truth, and to Mr. Johnſtone's own knowledge, that we read them with equal ſurprize and contempt; ſenſible that he muſt be hard preſſed indeed, to ſupport a ſinking reputation, who has recourſe to falſhood to juſtify miſconduct.

16. This gentleman thinks it neceſſary, after three months preparation, to apologize for a lame and unſeaſonable defence, by affirming, that he was denied all acceſs to the papers, relative to himſelf, until a few days before his departure. Mr. Johnſtone forgot that he acknowleges the receipt of thoſe very papers in a note he wrote to our ſecretary, in the month of June,

before he came to any determination; which note is now in the ſecretary's poſſeſſion; he alſo forgot, that the letters of Meſſrs. Senior and Middleton, inſerted in our proceedings of the 21ſt of June, prove, that all the evidences and proceedings upon that occaſion were regularly tranſmitted to thoſe gentlemen who were not preſent at the Board—He ought therefore, to avail himſelf of the firſt plea, and refuſe rather to acknowledge the authority of the Committee, than thus to ſkulk behind a pitiful untruth.

From the deep fund of critical learning which Mr. Johnſtone diſplays in the country language, we might reaſonably expect a more perfect knowledge of the power and idiom of his mother tongue; for after torturing the phraſe "Cooch Booligani," to make our proceedings appear unfair and partial, he is at length forced to conſtrue it into a ſignification, that implies a ſtronger menace than can poſſibly be conveyed in the words of our tranſlation; the leaſt acquaintance with the Engliſh language will enable any man to determine, whether, in the circumſtances there repreſented, Mr. Johnſtone's expreſſion, "I will be ſilent," doth not imply a more emphatic menace, than the words which we aſcribe to him; "Your buſineſs will meet with no countenance," inaſmuch as the one declares all that is meant; whereas the other intimates a farther meaning than he would chuſe to expreſs.

Mr. Johnſtone inſinuates, by way of reflection on the management of the Committee, That we were under the neceſſity of applying to the Seets for the loan of a laak and a half of rupees—The fact is true, but it reſts with Mr. Johnſtone, and his aſſociates at the Board, to explain how the Company's Treaſury came to be at ſo low an ebb as to want ſo poor a ſupply?—It alſo reſts with them to explain, how the Nabob (for our firſt application was to the Nabob) came to be ſo impoveriſhed by preſents made to the deputation, that he could not furniſh even this ſmall relief to the neceſſities of the Company? And it reſts particularly with Mr. Johnſtone to aſſign the reaſon, why a balance of 6 lacks was due from Burdwan to your exhauſted Treaſury, while he was filling his own pockets at the Durbar, which balance was afterwards collected by Mr. Verelſt.

What he remarks on our opinion of Mr. Leyceſter, delivered in our proceedings of the 21ſt of June, is alſo very true. That gentleman had, jointly with Mr. Johnſtone, received bills from M. R. Cawn; but as he declared upon oath, That he had no intention of benefiting by them, it was ſurely incumbent on the Committee to acquit him in a public opinion.—We ſhould have acquitted Mr. Johnſtone likewiſe, if he had made the ſame ſolemn declaration; but our private ſentiments of that oath we ſhould have reſerved, as in Mr. Leyceſter's caſe, to our letter to the Court of Directors; for an oath may ſilence an accuſation of crimes, but it doth not neceſſarily produce conviction of innocence.

Mr. Johnſtone has tacked to this extraordinary defence, certain letters, written to him by Mahomed Reza Cawn, and his own agent Mooteram, as vouchers for his good behaviour, during the negociation. With reſpect to theſe letters, we muſt obſerve, That they were obtained at a period when it may reaſonably be ſuppoſed, that ſuch teſtimonies durſt not be refuſed, on account of the extraordinary authority which Mr. Johnſtone had juſt before aſſumed at the Durbar.

It may alſo be obſerved from M. R. Cawn's letter, That great apprehenſions were conceived, leaſt the nabob ſhould come to Calcutta, to lay his complaints before the Committee; and Mr. Johnſtone knows that intereſt was made with the then reſident, to prevail on him to exert his utmoſt influence in preventing a viſit, which it was thought would not bring much honour to the deputation. We leave it therefore to your Honourable Board to determine, Whether, at the beſt thoſe teſtimonies will juſtify Mr. Johnſtone from the charge of extortion, and weigh down againſt the moſt poſitive evidence that can be given upon any matter of fact—Be this as it will, we think it neceſſary to correct Mr. Johnſtone's miſtake, when he affirms, that M. R. Cawn's firſt depoſition takes no notice of any demand made in the name of the deputation—A reference to that depoſition will ſatisfy you, that Mr. Johnſtone either reads without attention, or that he quotes without candour. It would be endleſs to purſue Mr. Johnſtone through the tedious maze of error and miſrepreſentation, ſo evident in every page of his letter. Permit us therefore, to refer you, for a more particular reply, to the proceedings themſelves, and to Lord Clive's minute, and to thoſe of the members of the Select Committee, entered in the appendix already tranſmitted by the Admiral Stevens. As to Mr. Johnſtone's management in the Burdwan Province, we could wiſh he had ſuffered us to cover with the veil of ſilence, tranſactions that will not bear examination. He hath now, by his ill-judged ſtrictures on Mr. Verelſt's memorial, obliged that gentleman to diſcloſe, what, out of tenderneſs to Mr. Johnſtone, he was unwilling to reveal.

17. You will obſerve from the conſultations, That Mr. Leyceſter ſtands ſuſpended, and that Mr. Gray reſigned the ſervice while his conduct during his reſidence at Maulda was under conſideration of the Board; you will alſo perceive the obſtruction given to all public buſineſs, by cavilling, debate, and unſeaſonable minutes, while theſe two gentlemen remained at the Board. Thoſe minutes are of themſelves ſufficient teſtimony of the ſpirit which actuated ſo extraordinary a behaviour; they are indecent, violent, and factious, beyond any thing ever before tolerated in this government, in the moſt licentious times. Meſſrs. Leyceſter and Gray no ſooner perceived the laſh of correction removed, than they, unmindful of the lenity of the

Committee,

Committee, when we might with propriety, and indeed ought to have ſuſpended them the ſervice, ſet up a determined oppoſition, and dared to ridicule and inſult the government upon all occaſions; yet we bore this uſage with patience, out of regard to your ſituation, and replied to their minutes with temper, until Mr. Leyceſter proceeded to ſuch lengths of licentiouſneſs, as tended to involve the ſettlement in anarchy and civil diſſentions. He publiſhed an expreſſion, haſtily dropped by General Carnac at the Board, with ſuch additional and aggravating circumſtances, as were beſt calculated to raiſe a ferment in the minds of the people, and excite the inhabitants to open ſedition. The alarm that we were about to introduce a military government became ſo general, we thought it incumbent on us, to trace the author of ſuch dangerous calumny,—and upon conviction, that Mr. Leyceſter had forged and publiſhed it, with a deſign of weakening the hands of Adminiſtration, we judged it neceſſary to ſuſpend him, as unworthy his ſtation in your ſervice.

18. We need not take up your time, in juſtifying a meaſure that became indiſpenſibly neceſſary, unleſs we meant to relinquiſh all attempts to effect that general reformation, ſo eſſential to the ſtability and permanency of your poſſeſſions. Mr. Leyceſter had ſtrenuouſly oppoſed every meaſure which tended to the correction of abuſes; and even while he was acting in the capacity of a magiſtrate and judge, moſt ſhamefully endeavoured to ſuppreſs, pervert and ſtifle evidences, relative to Mr. Gray's conduct. His own minute upon the occaſion, that produced his ſuſpenſion, ſo ſtrongly points out the violent deſigns he entertained, that we would ſit no longer at the ſame Board, with any regard to our own characters, or proſpect of advantage to your ſervice. From the loud cry raiſed by Mr. Gray and him againſt military force and arbitrary power, one would naturally conceive the preſident had deprived half the Britiſh ſubjects in the ſettlement of their birth right. The fact, however, was nothing more, than that Lord Clive had ordered a guard of ſeapoys over Remnaut, a man of infamous character, ſaid to be employed by Mr. Gray in the moſt iniquitous acts of extortion, and a native of Maulda, who himſelf refuſed to claim the protection of our laws, becauſe he ſhould thereby become ſubject to the puniſhment to which thoſe laws condemn his offences; whereas numberleſs inſtances occur, in former governments in Bengal, of natives, inhabitants of Calcutta, being confined by military guards, upon accuſations of infinitely leſs conſequence to the public weal.—In ſhort, theſe two gentlemen were ſo diſcontented and induſtrious, in propagating the ſeeds of their humour, that we are firmly convinced the ſuſpenſion of the one was neceſſary, and the reſignation of the other is conducive to the benefit of your ſervice; yet theſe are the gentlemen who, we are told, flatter themſelves with the hopes of juſtifying their conduct to your ſatisfaction, and of returning again to the management of your concerns in Bengal; ſhould this event ever happen, we have only to wiſh, and we fervently do wiſh, although contrary to all human probability, that your affairs may proſper.

19. The Board being now reduced far beneath the eſtabliſhment we propoſed, and to a number inſufficient to conduct the neceſſary buſineſs of the Government, filling the vacant ſeats became an object of immediate conſideration. By the Admiral Stevens we freely delivered our ſentiments of the unfitneſs for that ſtation of ſome of thoſe gentlemen who ſtand next in ſucceſſion. We alſo recommended with the greateſt earneſtneſs, that in compoſing your Council, you would admit of no claim but that of merit and approved ſervices. We muſt now again beg leave to repeat, that from a liſt of fourteen junior merchants, we are not able to ſelect a number ſufficient to make up the deficiency of members at the Board, unleſs we abandon all hopes of curbing licentiouſneſs, reforming abuſes, and ſubduing that univerſal paſſion that prevailed among our ſervants of accumulating riches in a manner inconſiſtent with the good of the country and with your intereſt. the factious ſpirit which lately blazed out ſo violently in Council hath reached the lower claſſes, ſo that we can entertain no reaſonable hope from their cordial ſervices, until they have felt the weight of correction, and experienced the influence of example. Still, however, we ſhould be ſorry to deprive them of all proſpect of riſing, by promoting their juniors on this eſtabliſhment; ſince time, and the certain aſſurance that merit, not ſtanding, will entitle them to your favour, may produce the deſired effect upon their conduct.

20. For theſe reaſons we applied to the Preſidency at Fort Saint George, requeſting that Meſſieurs Ruſſell, Alderſey, Kelſal, and Floyer, might be permitted to aſſiſt us in the preſent exigency, until your pleaſures ſhould be known; being fully perſuaded, that this preſence of the ſervants of another Preſidency will operate more effectually, than if we had recourſe to the more irkſome and mortifying indignity of ſuperſeding them from this eſtabliſhment. We are ſorry to find that our endeavours to ſerve the Company in a manner the leaſt injurious to your ſervants here ſhould be miſconſtrued. As ſoon as this meaſure became known, by reports from Madraſs, and previous to our laying any proceedings before the Board, the young gentlemen of the ſettlement had ſet themſelves up for judges of the propriety of our conduct, and the degree of their own merit; each would ſeem to think himſelf qualified to tranſact your mighty affairs in council, at an age when the laws of his country adjudge him unfit to manage his own concerns to the extent of forty ſhillings. They have not only ſet their hands to the memorial of complaint, but entered into aſſociations unbecoming at their years, and deſtructive of that ſubordination without which no government can ſtand; all viſits to the preſident are forbidden; all invitations from him and the members of the Committee are to be ſlighted; the gentlemen called down by our authority from Madraſs, are to be treated with neglect and contempt; every

every man who deviates from this confederacy is to be ſtigmatized and avoided: in a word, the members are totally to ſeparate themſelves from the head; decorum and union are to be ſet at defiance; and it becomes a fair ſtruggle whether we or the young gentlemen ſhall in future guide the helm of Government. Look at their names, examine their ſtanding, enquire into their ſervices, and reflect upon the age of four fifths of the ſubſcribers to this bill of grievances, who now ſupport the aſſociation, and you will be equally ſurprized with us at the preſumptuous intemperance of youth, and convinced that a ſtep of three or four years in the courſe of promotion is indiſpenſibly neceſſary, if you would have your Council compoſed of men of experience and diſcretion.

21. From this ſketch of the behaviour of your junior ſervants, you will perceive the dangerous pitch to which the independant and licentious ſpirit of this ſettlement hath riſen; you will then determine on the neceſſity and propriety of the ſtep we have taken. In the mean time we are reſolved to ſupport it, or we muſt ſubmit to the anarchy and confuſion conſequent on ſubjecting the decrees of your Select Committee to the reviſal and repeal of young gentlemen juſt broke looſe from the hands of their Schoolmaſter; earneſtly do we wiſh that every member of this board had cordially joined in the ſame ſentiments, ſince diſſents ſerve only to break the force of reſolutions, to weaken authority, and give vigour and courage to faction and and diſobedience: As to the point of indignity of which your Petitioners complain, nothing can be more evident, than that the Committee regarded the preſent ſuperſeſſion as leſs injurious than a ſelection would be from this eſtabliſhment, ſince we even declined promoting upon this occaſion the very perſons whom we particularly recommended to the moſt diſtinguiſhing marks of your favour: in this light it is conſidered in every other ſervice, and we doubt not but it would have been ſo conſidered in this ſervice, had ſuch promotion been the choice of the Committee.

22. Our proceedings explain the motives of our conduct, and alſo the meaſures we inforced to reduce the ſettlement to order and obedience. Mr. Majendie, the ſecretary to the council, is diſmiſſed from his office, and ſuſpended the ſervice for having eminently diſtinguiſhed himſelf in forming a combination ſo unwarrantable in itſelf, ſo dangerous in the preſent conjuncture, and ſo peculiarly unbecoming to his age, to his ſtation, and his employment; ſhould this example ſuffice, we ſhall avoid proceeding to the extremity of puniſhing with the loſs of bread, young men who have been artfully ſpirited up to faction, to gratify the reſentment and promote the ſelfiſh views of men in whom you have repoſed unmerited, and much abuſed confidence.

You will be aſtoniſhed to obſerve at the head of this liſt, two members of your council who ſubſcribe their names in teſtimony of their ſenſe of the injuſtice done to the younger ſervants; poſſibly this teſtimony might have weight with your honourable board, had thoſe gentlemen firſt cleared up their conduct from certain imputations, which intimate how little their intereſt diſpoſes them to co-operate in a reformation for the public benefit; at all events, whether the proceeding of the Committee be in itſelf right or wrong, it is moſt certainly their duty to repreſs every factious combination, to temper the heat and vehemence of youth, to maintain the authority of the board, and to avoid giving countenance to a ſeditious and rebellious humour, that might have produced the ſubverſion of government, and the moſt fatal conſequences to the Company's affairs, before your deciſion could arrive.

23. This incident occuring four days only before the diſpatch of the ſhip, you will not expect that our letter from the public department ſhould enter ſo minutely into the tranſactions of the board, as we propoſed; the buſineſs is now ſuddenly taken up by Mr. Campbell our ſecretary, who, we are aſſured, will exert his utmoſt ability: but he requeſts, you will pleaſe to make an allowance for the ſhortneſs of time, and his total unacquaintance with all that has been tranſacted in that department.

24. We have the ſatisfaction to acquaint you, that Sujah Dowlah appears well diſpoſed to cultivate our friendſhip and adhere ſtrictly to the conditions of the late treaty; Colonel Smith's Brigade is now ſtationed at Illahabad and Benaras, to ſecure the King and Vizier againſt the invaſions of the Morrattoes, until they have fully re-eſtabliſhed themſelves, and payment of the ſtipulated indemnification to the Company is completed: His Majeſty's viſionary projects of ſeating himſelf with our aſſiſtance on the throne of his anceſtors, and proceeding to Delhi, his capital, ſeem to have vaniſhed before the Committee's remonſtrances; we hope he is at length convinced, that without us the ſcheme is impracticable, and we are certain it never can be our intereſt to extend the influence of your arms to ſo great a diſtance from your preſent poſſeſſions, and the ſeat of your government.

25. Opening a communication betwen the Northern Circar and Bengal, muſt prove mutually advantageous to your preſidency at Fort Saint George, and to us; we have therefore determined to embrace the favourable opportunity which the preſent feeble condition of the Morattoes affords, to carry this meaſure into execution, and have for that purpoſe ſet on foot a negotiation with their chief, whereby we propoſe he ſhall cede to us the Northern parts of Orixa now in his poſſeſſion, upon our conſenting to pay a certain ſtipulated annual revenue; whatever his determination may be, it is our reſolution not to attempt gaining this advantage by violence or force of arms: Peace is at length happily reſtored to theſe provinces, and it will be the ſtudy

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of this Committee to preſerve and prolong theſe advantages which you already begin to experience.

We remain with the warmeſt zeal for your ſervice, and the greateſt reſpect,

Fort William. Honourable Sirs,
the 31ſt January 1766. Your moſt faithful humble ſervants,

CLIVE,
W. B. SUMNER.
JOHN CARNAC,
H. VERELST,
FRA. SYKES.

No. 47.

Extract of Company's Letter to Bengal, 15th February 1765.

39. IN our letters of the 8th February and 1ſt June laſt, we gave you our ſentiments and directions very fully in reſpect to the inland trade of Bengal; we now enforce the ſame in the ſtrongeſt manner, and poſitively inſiſt that you take no ſteps whatever towards renewing this Trade without our expreſs leave; for which purpoſe you muſt not fail to give us the fulleſt information upon the ſubject, agreeable to our above mentioned directions.

40. The enforcing our ſaid orders is the more indiſpenſably neceſſary from our obſerving the complaints of the preſent Nabob, taken notice of and refered to in your ſeparate letter of the 20th February 1764, relating to the many Difficulties, Hardſhips, and Oppreſſions he meets with reſulting from the before mentioned unwarrantable and licentious trade—We have ſuch an intire confidence in Lord Clive's great abilities and good intentions, that we make no doubt theſe great abuſes will be the particular objects of his care and attention, and that he will be able to carry theſe our orders effectually into execution.

No. 48.

Company's Letter to Bengal, 26th April 1765.

20. WE are extremely anxious for the arrival of Lord Clive, and the gentlemen who accompanied him; as they have been ſo lately in England, they are the beſt judges of the opinion the Company and the nation entertain of the conduct of the Engliſh in Bengal, for theſe laſt four years, which, we are ſorry to ſay, is in general, that they have been guilty of violating treaties, of great oppreſſion, and a combination to enrich themſelves.

21. We do not here mean to enter into a diſcuſſion reſpecting the political conduct of our late governor and council, but muſt ſay, that an unbounded thirſt after riches ſeems to have poſſeſſed the whole body of our ſervants, to that degree, that they have loſt all ſight of juſtice to the country government, and of their duty to the Company.

22. In reading the opinions of the ſeveral members of the late Council, reſpecting this illegal trade, by which we mean the articles of ſalt, beetle-nut and tobacco, we are aſtoniſhed to find thoſe among them, who pretended to found their right on the Phirmaunds.

23. Treaties of commerce are underſtood to be for the mutual benefit of the contracting parties: is it then poſſible to ſuppoſe, that the court of Delhi, by confirming the privilege of trading free of cuſtoms, could mean an inland trade in the commodities of their own country, at that period unpractiſed and unthought of by the Engliſh, to the detriment of their revenues, and the ruin of their own merchants? we do not find that ſuch a conſtruction was ever heard of until our own ſervants firſt invented it, and afterwards ſupported it by violence;—neither could it be claimed by the ſubſequent treaties with Meer Jaffier or Coſſim Ally, which were never underſtood to give one additional privilege of trade beyond what the Phirmaunds expreſſed; in ſhort, the ſpecious arguments uſed by thoſe who pretended to ſet up a right to it, convince us they did not want judgment, but virtue, to withſtand the temptation of ſuddenly amaſſing a great fortune, although acquired by means incompatible with the peace of the country and their duty to the Company.

24. Equally blameable were they, who acknowledging they had no right to it, and ſenſible of the ill conſequences reſulting from aſſuming it, have nevertheleſs carried on this trade, and uſed the authority of the Company to obtain by a treaty exacted by violence, a ſanction for a trade to enrich themſelves without the leaſt regard or advantage to the Company, whoſe forces they employed to protect them in it.

25. Had this ſhort queſtion been put, which their duty ought firſt to have ſuggeſted, Is it for the intereſt of our employers? they would not have heſitated one moment about it, but this criterion ſeems never once to have occurred.

26. All barriers being thus broken down between the Engliſh and the country Government, and every thing out of its proper channel, we are at a loſs how to preſcribe means to reſtore order from this confuſion, and being deprived of that confidence which we hoped we might have placed in thoſe ſervants, who appear to have been the actors in theſe ſtrange ſcenes, we can only ſay, that we rely on the zeal and abilities of Lord Clive and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, to remedy theſe evils: we hope they will reſtore our reputation among the country powers, and convince them of our abhorrence of oppreſſion and rapaciouſneſs.

No. 49.

Company's Letter to Lord Clive.

My Lord,

WE have with the greateſt pleaſure received the news of your Lordſhip's arrival in good health at the Cape of Good Hope; and although your paſſage to that place was not ſo expeditious as we could have wiſhed, we hope the winds proved more favourable in the latter part of your voyage, and that this letter will find your Lordſhip in health and ſafety at Fort William.

Our advices from Bengal in a ſeparate letter of the 27th September laſt, make us anxious for the iſſue of the war againſt Shujah Dowlah and Coſſim Ally Cawn; we hope the expectation of your Lordſhip's arrival will have had a happy influence on our affairs, by haſtening the concluſion of that expenſive war, and leaving you at full leiſure to attend to the eſtabliſhment of a firm and laſting peace, to the regulation of the trade in ſalt, beetle nut, tobacco, and other articles, that it may be adjuſted on ſuch a plan, to the ſatisfaction and with concurrence of the Nabob, as may redound to the honour of the Company, and effectually prevent the confuſion and oppreſſion that have ſprung from the abuſes practiſed in it of late years, to the reduction of our enormous military expences, to the eſtabliſhment of good order among our civil ſervants, diſcipline in our army, and harmony in the ſettlement: theſe, my Lord, are our ſanguine expectations, founded on the experience of your great abilities, and zeal for the Company's ſervice, in which we have the fulleſt confidence; and we muſt beg leave to add our opinion, that ſucceſs in theſe great points will redound as much to your Lordſhip's reputation, as any of the great actions by which you have already been diſtinguiſhed.

Your Lordſhip may be aſſured of our firmeſt ſupport in every thing that can be ſuggeſted or propoſed for the proſperity of the Company, and your own honour.

We are, my Lord,

Your Lordſhip's loving Friends,

Henry Crabb Boulton.	J. Creſwicke.
George Dudley.	John Harriſon.
Joſias du Pre.	Charles Cutts.
John Stephenſon.	Robert Jones.
Thomas Saunders.	J. Purling.
Edward Wheeler.	Frederick Pigou.
George Cuming.	Henry Savage.
Henry Hadley.	E. H. Crutenden.
John Roberts.	Thomas Rous.
Charles Chambers.	Luke Scrafton.
J. Pardoe.	F. W. Barrington.

London, 26th April, 1765.

No. 50.

Extract of a Letter from the Court of Directors to the Preſident and Council at Fort William, dated 24th December, 1765.

10. YOUR deliberations on the inland trade have laid open to us a ſcene of moſt cruel oppreſſion, which is indeed exhibited at one view of the 13th article of the Nabob's complaints, mentioned thus,— in your conſultation of the 17th October, 1764, "The "poor of this country who uſed always to deal in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, are now de- "prived of their daily bread, by the trade of the Europeans, whereby no kind of advantage "accrues to the Company, and the Goverment's revenues are greatly injured." We ſhall for the preſent obſerve to you, that every one of our ſervants, concerned in this trade, has been guilty of a breach of his covenants and diſobedience to our orders. In your conſultations of the 3d of May, we find among the various extortionate practices, the moſt extraordinary one of Burjaut, or forcing the natives to buy goods beyond the market price, which you there acknowledge to have been frequently practiſed.

11. In your reſolution to prevent this practice, you determine to forbid it, "but with ſuch "care and diſcretion as not to affect the Company's inveſtment, as you do not mean to inva- "lidate the right derived to the Company from their Phirmaund, which they have always held "over their weavers," as the Company are known to purchaſe their inveſtment by ready money only, we require a full explanation how this can affect them, or how it ever could have been practiſed in the purchaſe of their inveſtment, which the latter part of Mr. Johnſtone's minute entered on conſultation the 21ſt July, 1764, inſinuates, for it would almoſt juſtify a ſuſpicion that the goods of our ſervants have been put off to the weavers, in part payment of the Company's inveſtment; therefore we direct you to make a rigid ſcrutiny into this affair, that we may know if any of our ſervants, or thoſe employed under them, have been guilty of ſuch a breach of truſt, that their names and all the circumſtances may be known to us.

12. We

12. We alſo order you to give us the particular inſtances which have confirmed you in your opinion that the Burjaut has been practiſed, that we may know whoſe agents they were, and whether the agents who practiſed it, were countenanced and protected in it by their maſters.

13. Mr. Johnſtone's minute on conſultation, the 21ſt July, 1764, cannot eſcape our notice, wherein he ſays, "the ſupport of theſe, and our other privileges, in their full extent againſt the "uſurpations of the late Nabob, engaged us in this unhappy war, and after ſo many valuable "lives loſt in the defence of them, I ſhall ever be againſt parting with them, or hazarding the "loſs of them, without greater and better cauſe than has yet appeared, and till after we have "found by experience, that all other remedies are in vain."

14. As the privileges here meant principally relate to the unwarranted inland trade, in which our own ſervants have been ſo generally concerned, greatly to the prejudice of the Company, by involving their affairs in diſtreſſes and difficulties, and manifeſtly injurious to the country government, of which every one of you cannot but be fully ſenſible, we ſay we cannot avoid taking notice of the ſaid opinion, as by it Mr. Johnſtone ſeems to perſevere in all events to prefer the private intereſt of individuals to the general good, ſo far as reſpects the ſaid inland trade.—If Mr. Johnſtone continues in theſe ſentiments, as from the general tenor of his conduct we have too much reaſon to apprehend, he cannot but be looked upon as a dangerous ſervant; therefore if he, or any other perſons, ſhall perſiſt in carrying on a trade, which, as before obſerved, has been attended with ſo many bad conſequences, we would have him or them diſmiſſed the Company's ſervice.

15. We ſhall ſay nothing further at preſent on the inland trade, till that important ſubject ſhall have been taken up by Lord Clive, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee, only to obeſerve that the regulation propoſed in conſultation, 17th October, 1764, of confining the trade of our ſervants in the article of ſalt, to the capital cities of Patna, Dacca, and Moorſhedabad, on paying the Nabob 2 ½ per cent. is a manifeſt diſobedience of our orders of the 8th February, then under your deliberation, which poſitively forbid all trade in ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, nor does it by any means obviate the objections ariſing from the diſtreſs of the poor, and the injury to his revenues; for if you pay only 2 ½ per cent. and the country people 20, or perhaps 40 per cent. it is as much a monopoly as ever.

16. For other licenſed trade we think it neceſſary to eſtabliſh, that all trade to be carried on within the provinces where factories are eſtabliſhed, ſhall be carried on by our ſervants at ſuch factories, and their agents only who ſhall tranſact the buſineſs of our other ſervants on receiving the eſtabliſhed commiſſion; and on any refuſal to accept ſuch commiſſion, or any tendency to monopolize, the ſervants of Calcutta, or other parts, are at liberty to ſend their own black Gomaſtahs, who are nevertheleſs to be accountable for their conduct to the Company's ſervants within whoſe juriſdiction they reſide.—All diſtricts not comprehended within the juriſdiction of each ſubordinate ſhall be conſidered as within the juriſdiction of the board of Calcutta.—That no duſtucks ſhall be given but for articles of import and export, as was formerly practiſed; and you are to ſend us a liſt of whatever falls under this denomination.

No. 51.

At a Select Conſultation, the 15th Auguſt 1766;
PRESENT,
The Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident,
William B. Sumner Eſq.
B. G. Carnac,
Harry Verelſt, Eſq.

THE Preſident acquaints the Committee, that he has certain intelligence of the exorbitant prices at which the merchants who had purchaſed from the Society were now ſelling ſalt in the Bazar, contrary to the terms of their contract, and regardleſs of the following regulations eſtabliſhed by the Committee of Trade,

Committee, June the 12th 1766.

That, in order to prevent the purchaſers, by having engroſſed the whole ſalt to be diſpoſed of in the different diſtricts, raiſing the price in the Bazars ſo high as to be an oppreſſion to the inhabitants, we reſerve to ourſelves to regulate, in caſe of complaint, the price ſalt ſhall be ſold at in the Bazars by retail, which ſhall be ſettled in ſuch a manner that the purchaſers of the Committee may be enabled to make 13 per profit, if ſold on the ſpot, and 17 1-half, if tranſported from the place they purchaſe it at, allowing for riſk and charges.

Agreed the purchaſers be called before us to aſſign reaſons for their deviating from the expreſs terms of their agreement, and from the poſitive orders of the Committee of Trade.

Coſſinaut being called in, and interrogated, acknowleges that he is appointed an agent by his partners, for diſpoſing of the ſalt purchaſed by him and divers others, black merchants from the Society; and that he had diſpoſed of the ſame at Colbaria and Calcutta, in the manner ſpecified in the following ſtatements.

Coolburia.

Coolburia.

Saphuleram Goſe — —	500	a	210	1,050
Shakebolla — —	300	a	220	660
Shakehiattee — —	200	a	220	440
Nazar Mahomed —	200	a	220	440
Ozederam Ghoſe —	1,000	a	220	2,200
Ramdulol Paul — —	450	a	225	1,012. 8
Bulram Cound ——	500	a	227	1,135
Manie Chund Shaw —	10,000	a	220	22,000
Banchiram Mottee —	100	a	227	227
Ramdulol Paul — —	150	a	230	345
Laſeram, &c. — —	5,000	a	225	11,250
Luckicaunt Ghoſe —	5,000	a	225	11,250
Bulram Mozendar —	6,000	a	225	13,500
	29,400			65,509. 8

Calcutta,

Kiſſenchund Sircar —	5,000	a	264	13,200
Juteram Cuno — —	5,000	a	264	13,200
Binud Seidur — —	2,000	a	264	5,280
Camdeb Shaw —	1,000	a	264	2,640
Roy Chund Beenga —	700	a	275	1,925
Naran Metah — —	5,000	a	276	13,800
Sapheelram Paul —	45,000	a	266	119,700
Gopaul Soure —	25,000	a	265	66,250
Kiſſenmohone Ghoſe	15,000	a	265	39,750
Kiſſenchund Sercar —	10,000	a	273	27,300
	113,700			303,045
113,700 Maunds, a 230 Rs. per Maund, is		—	—	261,510
				41,535

It now appearing to the Committee, from the confeſſion of Coſſinaut and the particulars of the above Statements, that the merchants who had contracted with the Society have ſold to the amount of 113,700 Maunds of ſalt, for the ſum of 303,045 Rupees, whereas their agreement ſtipulates they ſhould ſell for 261,510 Rupees, whence ariſes a ſurplus profit to the merchants of 41,535 Rupees, levied upon the neceſſities of the poor induſtrious.

Agreed, That to prevent in future all ſuch oppreſſive and iniquitous practices, as may reflect diſhonour upon this government, we require of the above merchants to refund the ſurplus profit of 41,535 Rupees, the ſame to be appropriated to ſuch good and charitable purpoſes as the governor and council ſhall direct; or, in caſe of reuſal, withdraw from them the Company's protection: And that Coſſinaut and his partners be called upon to pay into the Treaſury their ſeveral ſhares of ſurplus profit by the firſt day of September next.

Ordered, that the Secretay ſhall give public norice of this our reſolution. And

Alſo, that the remainder now on hand will be ſold at the rate ſtipulated with the Committee of Trade, otherwiſe the merchants ſhall forfeit the Compay's protection.

CLIVE,
JOHN CARNAC,
H. VERELST.

No. 52.

At a Select Conſultation, 3d September 1765;
PRESENT,
The right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident,
Brigadier General Carnac,
Harry Verelſt, Eſq.

THE Right Honourable the Preſident lays before the Committee, the following Minute.

Gentlemen,

Some time before my departure from England, the Court of Directors debated upon the propriety of ſuffering their ſervants in Bengal to trade in the articles of ſalt, beetle and tobacco; and it could not be expected, they would continue to them the enjoyment of thoſe profitable branches, unleſs means were deviſed, by which the natives would no longer be oppreſſed, and by which the nabob and the Company would largely partake of the advantages. Upon a firm

er-

perſuaſion, that ſuch means would be deviſed, they were pleaſed to defer their final determination of this matter, till the ſentiments of the Select Committee ſhould be tranſmitted to them. By all their letters of the laſt year, and by ſeveral of this, they ſtill ſeem inclined to wait for our repreſentation; but by their letter of the 19th February laſt, per Lord Camden, they poſitively forbid their ſervants to have any concern whatſoever in this trade. At that time, indeed, they could not have had the leſt idea of the favourable change in the affairs of theſe provinces, whereby the intereſt of the Nabob, with regard to ſalt, is no longer immediately concerned.

When we firſt took this important matter into conſideration, I joined in opinion with the reſt of the Committee, that if the trade could be put upon ſuch a footing, that the Nabob ſhould receive more than had been received by any of his predeceſſors, the Company be amply conſidered, and the natives become purchaſers upon terms full as reaſonable as in former times, the ſervants might be indulged in the privilege under ſuch certain rules and reſtrictions as would make the trade carry with it, as little as poſſible, the odious form of a monopoly. Theſe points having been ſettled, I conſented to the plan laid down laſt year. My abſence from the preſidency, the multiplicity of affairs then in agitation, wherein the peace and tranquillity of the provinces, the intereſt of the Company, and the honour of the nation were more immediately concerned, prevented my paying that attention I could have wiſhed to that important object. Although by the acquiſition of the Dewannee, the whole of the duties belong to the Company, and by the diligence and zeal of the members of the Committee of trade, many uſeful reformations had taken place, yet, from my obſervation when I was laſt up the country, and from the heavy complaints againſt Europeans of the monopoly of trade in general, I find that the induſtrious native is ſtill deprived of that ſhare to which he has an undoubted and a more natural right; nor is it yet upon that equitable footing which juſtice and humanity would, I am ſure, incline this Committee to eſtabliſh.

A few weeks more muſt bring us the final reſolution of the Court of Directors, in anſwer to our diſpatches by the Admiral Stevens; and if, notwithſtanding the preſent ſituation of their affairs, they ſhould think proper to repeat their orders per Lord Camden, it will be our duty to obey them, and am perſuaded they will be obeyed by this committee. But if, on the contrary, upon receipt of our repreſentations, they ſhould change their ſentiments, and approve of the regulations we have already made, no time ſhould be loſt on our part in eſtabliſhing the mode for carrying on the trade in future. The confidence which the Court of Directors have been pleaſed particularly to expreſs in my endeavours to ſettle upon an equitable plan that trade which has been the ſource of ſo many evils, cannot but promote my zeal for the cauſe, and make me anxiouſly wiſh to ſee every regulation that you may join with me in thinking neceſſary to take place.

The Company's duties, I beg leave to propoſe, ſhall be increaſed; the ſervants ſhall receive a reaſonable ſhare of emolument; and the terms, upon which the natives are finally to be concerned, advantageouſly fixed.

I propoſe,

1ſt, That all ſalt provided by the ſociety of trade ſhall be ſold at Calcutta, and at other places where it is made, and no where elſe.

2d, That the price of ſalt ſhall not exceed two rupees per maund, or 200 rupees per 100 maunds.

3dly, That the ſalt ſhall be ſold to the natives only, who are to tranſport it to every part of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and to have the whole profits ariſing from the ſale thereof; and that no Company's ſervant, free merchant, or European, ſhall be concerned in that article, directly or indirectly, after the ſale of it, at the above places.

4thly, That the Calcutta black merchants ſhall be limited to a certain proportion of purchaſe; but that no Banyans or ſervant whatever, belonging to any European, ſhall be included, or have any concern therein.

5thly, That every endeavour be made uſe of to encourage the ſubſtantial merchants of the country either to come down in perſon to the place where the ſalt is provided, or to ſend their agents, in order to purchaſe and tranſport the ſalt to the different places of ſale.

6thly, That a certain price be fixed for the ſale of every maund of ſalt, at every town, market, or village, where it is ſold, according to the diſtance and former cuſtom.

7thly, That if ſalt be ſold at any of the buzars, or markets, for one coury above the ſtipulated price, the vender ſhall not only forfeit all the ſalt there found in his poſſeſſion, but be liable to a forfeit of 1000 rupees for every hundred maunds of ſalt ſo ſold; and the ſalt and money ſoforfeited ſhall go one half to the informer, and one half to the government.

8thly, That the miniſters at Muxadabad and Patna have copies ſent them of theſe new regulations; and that they be deſired to apply to the Nabob to make the ſame known throughout the three provinces; and that every Phouzdar, &c. ſee they be put in execution, upon pain of being diſmiſſed from his employment.

9thly, This buſineſs being entirely commercial, I propoſe, that in the inſtrument of agreement for the next year, it ſhall be provided, that the Society of Trade be anſwerable to the board for their conduct; that the board may either make new regulations, or alter thoſe made by the Society of Trade, as they ſee fit; and that, in caſe of neceſſity, the Select Committee ſhall have power to controul the conduct of the whole.

10thly, That a duty of 50 per cent be paid to the company upon all the ſalt provided in their own lands; and 50 per cent. to the government upon all the ſalt provided upon the lands of the Government; and 15 per cent. upon beetle; which duties will, in fact, be brought to the company's credit; which, according to the preſent ſtate of the ſalt trade, will produce the company from 12 to 13 laaks of rupees per annnm.

The prohibition of a free inland trade, however diſagreeable to individuals, muſt now take place, and be confined to imports and exports, and to their immediate returns, which returns ſhall be made only to the preſidency, or to one or other of the eſtabliſhed factories. The Company are Sovereigns in India; and they have declared that the trade carried on for theſe four years paſt is an uſurpation, not only of their prerogative, but of the privileges of the natives, and repugnant to the expreſs and repeated orders of the Court of Directors. The indulgence, however, in the trade of ſalt, upon the footing I hope it will now be eſtabliſhed, ſhould, in my opinion, obviate all complaints, ſince it ſeems to be the moſt equitable modus between the company and their ſervants, and, at the ſame Time, a diſtribution of natural right to the people of the country. Conſidering that the late great advantages of unlimited trade are cut off, I cannot imagine that the Court of Directors will deny their ſervants this ſhare of benefit as a recompence for their attention and aſſiſtance in the management of the important concerns of theſe provinces. On the other hand, I would have the ſervants look upon theſe emoluments as a gift from the hands of their employers, offered to them annually in reward of their fidelity, and which will certainly be with-held from them, if ever their authority ſhould be reſiſted, and diſcontent and rapacity take place of gratitude and moderation.

CLIVE.

His Lordſhip's minute having been read and maturely conſidered, the regulations therein ſpecified are unanimouſly approved.

Agreed therefore, that the preſident's regulations for the inland trade be laid before the council with all convenient ſpeed, for their approbation, in order that the neceſſary inſtructions for proſecuting the joint concern, for the enſuing ſeaſon, may be immediately iſſued to the committee of trade.

Reſolved, that the above concern ſhall conſiſt of 60 Shares; and that the proprietors ſhall ſtand inrolled, with the ſeveral proportions affixed to their names, in the manner aſcertained in the following ſtatement.

STATEMENT of the JOINT SALT CONCERN, For the Year 1766.

W. B. Sumner	3
John Carnac	3
Charles Stafford Playdell	2
Harry Verelſt	2
John Cartier	2
Francis Sykes	2
Randolph Marriott	2
Hugh Watts	2
Samuel Middleton	2
Claud Ruſſell	2
William Alderſey	2
Thomas Kelſall	2
Charles Floyer	2
Colonel Richard Smith	2
Sir Robert Barker	2
	32

SECOND CLASS.

Reverend W. Parry and Bloner, jointly	2
Charlton	
French	
Reed	2
Hare	
Jekyll	
Wood	2
Rogers	
Shewin	
Williamſon	2
Dacres	
Lane	
Barwell	2
Woodward	
Harris	

Skinner

Skinner	—	—	—	2
Lawrell	—	—	—	
Goodwin	—	—	—	
Campbell	—	—	—	2
Sir Robert Fletcher		—	—	
Peach	—	—	—	
Chapman	—	—	—	$\frac{2}{3}$
				$14\frac{2}{3}$

THIRD CLASS.

Wilkins	—	—	—	2
Forbes	—	—	—	
Graham	—	—	—	
Hewitt	—	—	—	
Lambert	—	—	—	
Vanſittart	—	—	—	
Caſe	—	—	—	2
Grueber	—	—	—	
Plaiſted	—	—	—	
Taylor	—	—	—	
Ellis	—	—	—	
Hunter	—	—	—	
Davidſon	—	—	—	2
Stibbert	—	—	—	
Champion	—	—	—	
Grant	—	—	—	
Winwood	—	—	—	
Pemble	—	—	—	
Smith	—	—	—	2
Galliez	—	—	—	
Anderſon	—	—	—	
Robert Hunter	—	—	—	
Williams	—	—	—	
Bathoe	—	—	—	
Witts	—	—	—	1
Barber	—	—	—	
Watſon	—	—	—	
				9
Shares unappropriated	—	—	—	$4\frac{1}{3}$
				Total 60 Shares.

It appearing from the above diviſion of capital ſtock, that four ſhares and $\frac{1}{3}$ remain unappropriated;

Agreed the ſame be accounted for at a proper time.

No. 53.

Fort William General Conſultation, the 8th September 1766.

THE Proceedings of the Select Committee, from the 12th Auguſt to the 22d of September, are laid before the board; and the regulations for the ſalt concern therein propoſed being approved;

Ordered, They be entered after this conſultation, and that the ſame be communicated to the following gentlemen, who are now appointed to conſtitute the Committee of Trade, with directions for carrying the plan into execution as ſoon as poſſible.

WILLIAM BRIGHTWELL SUMNER,
HARRY VERELST,
RANDOLPH MARRIOTT,
HUGH WATTS,
CLAUD RUSSELL, and
CHARLES FLOYER, Eſquires.

No. 54.

Extract of Lord Clive's Letter to the honourable the Court of Directors, &c.

Gentlemen, Calcutta, 6th September 1766.

1. IN May last I had the honour to receive your letter of the 26th April 1765, per Harcourt; and it gives me particular satisfaction to remark, That I have not only fulfilled, but in great measure anticipated, your expectations in the several important points therein recommended to my attention: a peace firm and lasting is established; the trade in salt and beetle nut is now regulated, upon a plan which will still perhaps admit of improvements for the advantage of the company; your military expences, though encreased by means of the additional number of battalions of seapoys, are much less in proportion than heretofore; the double battalion is struck off; discipline is restored to your army; and subordination, good order, and harmony, have once more taken place among the civil servants at this settlement.

2. As the new covenants, and a strict obedience to your orders, more particularly in confining the trade of individuals to imports and exports only, have abridged the servants of many of their accustomed emoluments; and as the company are in fact the sole proprietors of the immense revenues of the three provinces, not to mention the 12 or 13 laak of rupees per annum, now arising from the duty upon salt and beetle nut; permit me to wish that the gentlemen in your service, as an encouragement to industry and good behaviour, may be suffered to enjoy the moderate proportion which is now settled, of those great advantages that have accrued to their employers; besides these, I have other reasons, of great importance to the service, to wish this indulgence may be continued: I therefore flatter myself, that the present distribution will receive your approbation. In your answer to our dispatches, per Admiral Stevens, my minute in committee, dated the 2d March instant, to which I beg leave to refer, will fully convey to you my ideas upon the subject, as also the several alterations that I propose shall take place for the improvement of the present plan; but if, after being made acquainted with the flourishing state of your affairs in Bengal, you should persevere in those orders you sent per Camden, be assured they will most punctually be complied with.

No. 55.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors, dated Fort William, 8th September 1766.

25. BEFORE this time, probably, you have determined the fate of the inland trade in salt, beetle and tobacco, whether it may be continued, under the regulations we have established, or is totally to be relinquished by your servants.——We shall therefore only observe on this occasion, that certain amendments are now proposed by the president, and adopted by the Select Committee, which we think will remove every inconvenience observed in the present establishment of that trade, and secure to the company the power of rewarding or punishing their servants, according to the degree of their merit or misconduct.

No. 56.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors, dated 5th December 1766.

4. AS soon as we had closed the inquiry into restitution and donations, the Committee took into consideration the several other orders issued by your Honourable Board, during the course of the last season: your remarks on the inland trade were so peculiarly striking, and so perfectly agreeable to our own sentiments, respecting that perpetual source of oppression and complaint, that we determined immediately to apply the most efficacious remedies to a disease which must in time have subverted the constitution, and endangered the being of the East India Company. By the Admiral Stevens you were informed of the plan we had concerted for carrying on the trade in salt, tobacco, and beetle nut, for the benefit of the Company and their servants, without injury to the Nabob, and without molestation or oppression of the natives; it was the best and most equitable system we could then devise; yet experience hath shewn the necessity of laying the trade under farther restrictions, the reasons for which, together with the particular mode of conducting this valuable branch of commerce in future, are fully explained in Lord Clive's minute, entered on our proceedings, in those emendations of the plan in which the Society of Trade was founded, all due regard has been paid to the sovereign prerogative of the Company, acting as collectors for the King, and more especially to the scrupulous distribution of natural right to the native inhabitants; whence we flatter ourselves, that the inland trade will henceforward prove to you a commodious fund for rewarding the different degrees of merit amongst your servants, and a fruitful source for encouragement to the industry of the country people, who are now, without distinction, admitted to a participation of its benefit, upon the most reasonable and moderate terms.

5. To the regulations formed for conducting the business of the Society of Trade, we have added a total prohibition of another species of inland traffic, in a variety of articles usually transported from one district to the interior country to another, whereby an extensive field was open for the abuse of power and the most notorious acts of fraud and injustice; all Europeans in

in your ſervice, or under your protection, are now indiſcriminately confined to trade in certain ſtated articles of import and export; the returns are to be made from the places where the goods were ſold directly to the Preſidency, or to the ſubordinate factory from whence they were diſpatched; and no circular traffic, by way of barter or otherwiſe, is in future to be allowed from one Aurung to another, on pain of confiſcation of the goods, and loſs of your ſervice and protection.

No. 57.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive to the Select Committee, 16th January, 1767.

WE have received orders from the Court of Directors to aboliſh the ſalt trade: theſe orders muſt be punctually obeyed; but as I am of opinion that the trade, upon its preſent footing, is rather beneficial than injurious to the inhabitants of the country, and that a continuation of this indulgence, or ſome other equivalent, is become abſolutely neceſſary, and would be an honourable incitement to diligence and zeal in the Company's ſervice, I flatter myſelf the Court of Directors may be induced to ſettle ſome plan that will prove agreeable to your wiſhes.

No. 58.

Extract of a Letter from Lord Clive, and others, to the Court of Directors; dated Fort William, 24th January, 1767.

20. WE come now to ſpeak of your inſtructions relative to the inland trade, which you very juſtly conſider as the foundation of all the bloodſhed, maſſacres, and confuſion, which have happened of late years in Bengal; your orders are poſitive, and therefore our obedience ſhall be implicit: accordingly you will obſerve in our proceedings, that the Society for conducting this branch of traffic ſtands abſolutely aboliſhed on the firſt day of September next; the contracts for the preſent year being formed, and large advances made, it was impoſſible, without ruin to individuals and confuſion to the Public, to fix an earlier date for the execution of your orders.

21. But although our duty obliges us to pay the ſtricteſt obedience to your peremptory orders for aboliſhing a trade to which you expreſs ſo ſtrong an averſion, the ſame duty requires we ſhould freely offer our ſentiments upon a ſubject in which we think your immediate intereſt, the good of the ſervice, and the public welfare, are deeply concerned. The Honourable Court of Directors, and indeed the whole body of Proprietors, found it neceſſary to reſtrain by covenants their civil and military ſervants from receiving thoſe advantages, to which they had for many years been accuſtomed; it is likewiſe propoſed, in order you may enjoy the real fruits of your late acquiſitions, to make ſuch an increaſe of inveſtment, particularly in ſilk, as will effectually deprive your ſervants of the uſual benefits ariſing from private trade; farther, that the revenues may not be injured in any degree, they are prohibited from lending money at a higher rate of intereſt than 12 *per cent. per annum*; and a trade by ſea, in the manufactures of the country, being the only remaining channel for the exertion of induſtry, that likewiſe is choaked up by thoſe ſhoals of free merchants annually imported; who being incumbered with no public buſineſs, nor confined to reſidence in Bengal, can carry on a free trade with every port in India to much greater advantage than your ſervants.

22. Taking all theſe circumſtances into conſideration, reflecting alſo upon the great increaſe of luxury of late years, in conſequence of the ſudden influx of wealth, and that it will not be practicable, for a time, to reduce the charges of living to the preſent means of ſupporting thoſe charges, we adopted, in conſequence of your permiſſion, the plan of a regulated and reſtricted inland trade, as the beſt method of rewarding faithful ſervices, and the ſureſt means to excite zeal, and the faireſt mode of carrying on a beneficial trade, without relinquiſhing all the advantages we have hitherto received, or ſubjecting the natives to thoſe encroachments on their natural rights, of which they have with too much reaſon complained.

23. Our letter by the Camden, and proceedings by the Cruttenden, will explain to you the regulations in the original plan of the Society, which took place in the month of September laſt. Under theſe regulations the trade can ſcarce be conſidered in the odious light of a monopoly, ſince we are rather the agents for manufacturing the ſalt, than the Proprietors of the trade; it is ſold in Calcutta to the natives only, and to the utter excluſion of all Europeans, at an eaſier rate than it could ever be procured when under management of the Government; before we were admitted to any participation the natives tranſport it to all the different parts of the country, under ſuch limitations, that it muſt reach the hands of the conſumer at a ſtated and moderate price; hereby the people ſenſibly feel the juſtice and lenity of our government; and your ſervants, who have attained the higheſt ſtations, after a courſe of many years ſpent in this unfavourable climate, reap the reward of their ſervices, and enjoy the means of ſecuring that independence to which they have ſo equitable a claim.

24. We are now directed totally to renounce all ſhare in and benefit ariſing from this trade; it muſt be made over to the natives; the Government muſt of courſe come into poſſeſſion; nor can it be carried on otherwiſe than upon the ancient footing of farming it out to miniſters officers, favourites, and dependants on the Government: who will rear immenſe fortunes upon the op-

preſſion and ruin of the Public, in deſpite of our utmoſt influence and endeavours. Theſe are at preſent our ſuſpicions; time alone can verify our conjectures: you no doubt will maturely conſider, how far it is probable men will continue honeſt againſt all the ſeductions of intereſt, and whether it may not be neceſſary to ſtrengthen the ties of that duty expected from your ſervants, by the tighter bonds of gratitude, for the affluence which they enjoy during the time of their ſervitude, and the independency they ought to ſecure before the cloſe of their labours.

No. 59.

Letter from Lord Clive to the Honourable Committees of Treaſury and Correſpondence, &c. &c. &c. Dated 28th Auguſt, 1767.

16. THE neceſſity of rewarding the ſuperior ſervants, both civil and military, is obvious; ſince the large inveſtment required by the Company makes it impoſſible for individuals, who perform their duty, to acquire any thing conſiderable by private trade. The means of regulating this reward has frequently engaged my attention; and after the moſt mature deliberation, I have found none ſo convenient, proper, or equitable, as the trade in ſalt. If you grant a commiſſion upon the revenues, the ſum will not only be large, but known to the world; the allowance being publickly aſcertained, every man's proportion will at times be the occaſion of much diſcourſe, envy, and jealouſy; the great will interfere in your appointments, and noblemen will perpetually ſolicit you to provide for the younger branches of their families; a commiſſion upon your inveſtments, whether upon the proviſion in Bengal, or upon the ſales in Europe, is liable to the ſame objections; but if you allow your ſervants the liberty of benefiting themſelves by the trade in ſalt, the following conveniencies will reſult:

17. 1ſt. An advance of four or five hundred thouſand pounds is required for the carrying on this trade: if it be carried on by your ſervants, the advance and the riſk will be theirs; if it be carried on by you, the money muſt be advanced out of the treaſury at your riſk, and you will conſequently have the leſs ſpecie to ſend home.

18. 2d. It is very eaſy to proportion it in ſuch a manner as that your ſervants ſhall not gain to a larger amount than they are in juſtice or equity entitled to.

19. 3d. By the bringing it to Calcutta and Dacca, by the loſs of boats, by the failure of contractors, and by many other accidents, the profits muſt always be precarious and uncertain, and conſequently unknown, except to the few who may take the trouble to inveſtigate the matter.

20. 4th. It will be looked upon as a profit ariſing from trade, and not from the pockets of the Company; which might be urged, if rewards were given out of the revenues; but here you can aſſert, that this indulgence, the only equitable one you have to grant, is in conſideration of the large inveſtments ordered, which, if complied with, muſt ſwallow up the trade of individuals; and indeed, if this indulgence be properly proportioned, all thoſe ſervants, who by their age and ſtanding are entitled to emoluments, would have no reaſon to complain, even were they altogether excluded from every article of trade which can interfere with the Company's inveſtment.

21. 5th. Should the ſalt trade be carried on by the Company, the great unavoidable advance made for that purpoſe out of their treaſury in Bengal, would lower the intereſt of money ſo conſiderably, as to be of infinite prejudice to thoſe individuals, who, having no trade to depend upon, ſubſiſt chiefly upon the intereſt of their capitals there; and it is to be obſerved, that the high intereſt has kept a great quantity of private treaſure in India, which would otherwiſe have been ſent home in bulk long ago.

22. It is an erroneous opinion, that ſalt was formerly an open trade. It ever was and ever muſt be a monopoly: ſome great favourite or favourites always had the whole in their own hands; for which they not only paid an annual peiſcaſh, or acknowledgment in money, to the Subah, but likewiſe gave conſiderable preſents, both in money and in curioſities, to him and to his miniſter: but the natives can have no juſt cauſe of complaint, provided they be furniſhed, with this article, upon more reaſonable terms than formerly, which will certainly be the caſe, if the plan ſent home by the Cruttenden be adopted, with a few amendments.

23. The ſalt trade ſhould, in my opinion, be confirmed to the Select Committee, the Council, the field officers, and the ſenior and junior merchants; the writers ſhould be conſidered merely as apprentices for five years, and not allowed any mercantile indulgence whatſoever, neither by duſtuck nor by any other means, directly or indirectly; but then their pay, or allowances from the Company, ſhould be ſo far increaſed as to admit of a comfortable ſubſiſtence; when they become factors they ſhould be permitted the liberty to trade, and duſtucks ſhould be granted to them, as an indulgence; when they arrive at the rank of junior merchants, they will then be entitled to ſhares in the ſalt trade.

24. Tobacco, which was uſually included in the idea of the ſalt and the beetle nut trade, was given up to the Committee, and left as an article in common: the beetle nut, in my opinion, ſhould likewiſe be given up; and though, by theſe means, the advantages of thoſe, who are allowed the excluſive trade in ſalt, will be much leſſened, yet there will remain a ſufficiency. It is however to be remembered, that both theſe articles ought to pay conſiderable duties to the Government, more eſpecially the beetle nut, as has always been cuſtomary.

25. If

25. If the ſalt plan be adopted, I think the Governor's commiſſion ſhould continue upon its preſent footing.

26. The ſupervifor of the revenues ſhould attend to that buſineſs only, and therefore ſhould be entirely excluded from trade, in like manner with the Governor; but, as a compenſation, he ought to be allowed a proportion, equal to the ſecond, in ſalt.

27. The ſecond ſhould be allowed three ſhares; the ſupervifor of the revenues three ſhares; the commanding officer, and the other members of the Select Committee, two ſhares; the council, and each of the colonels, one ſhare and an half; the ſenior merchants, and the lieutenant colonels, two thirds of a ſhare; the junior merchants and majors, one third of a ſhare.

28. As you will find it abſolutely neceſſary to ſend out able and experienced men to ſuperintend ſeveral of the departments in Bengal, the beſt of every profeſſion, engineers, a ſurgeon general and ſurgeon, ſecretaries and ſub-ſecretaries, accountants and ſub-accountants, chaplains, &c. will rejoice to go abroad, upon being admitted to ſhare in the ſalt trade: many conveniencies will hereby ariſe to the Company, and this one in particular, that you can engage men of real merit to accept of your ſervice, without appearing to reward them immediately with the Company's money.

29. Your ſervants in general, will, I hope, entertain a juſt ſenſe of your indulgence on this head; and I would have it ever conſidered as an indulgence due only to merit in ſtation: when the conduct of thoſe entitled to ſhare, by their rank or ſtanding, ſhall happen to fall under your cenſure, an abridgement of, or ſuſpenſion from, theſe emoluments, will be the ready means of inflicting puniſhment; and a temporary encreaſe will at the ſame time be a no leſs obvious method of regulating rewards, to thoſe who ſhall deſerve well upon any particular occaſion, or approve themſelves to be of diſtinguiſhed merit in the ſervice.

30. I doubt much whether Sujah Dowla's country can furniſh any thing of conſequence for your inveſtments; Bettea and Napaul produce gold, caſſia, and elephant's teeth; but I believe not in great quantity. The increaſe of your inveſtments in Bengal muſt be the reſult of the enquiry and diligent ſearch of able diſintereſted ſervants; inſpired with a true ſenſe of honour and zeal for your ſervice, they may effect great things; and I think that the indulgence of the ſalt trade will probably anſwer thoſe deſirable purpoſes.

No. 60.

Bath, 14th November 1767.

Gentlemen,

THE duty which I owe to the Company will not ſuffer me to be ſilent, on a ſubject wherein their intereſt ſeems ſo deeply concerned.

I learn, and with ſurprize, that you intend to lay open the ſalt trade, receiving only a duty of ten rupees upon every hundred maund at the Collaries or places where the ſalt is made

Permit me to repeat to you, that the trade in ſalt was always a monopoly; Coja Wazeed, and other merchants long before him, giving to the nabob and his miniſters, near (£. 200,000) two hundred thouſand pounds, per annum, in money and preſents, for the excluſive privilege. The natives never had the advantages you now propoſe to give them, and will be greatly aſtoniſhed at ſo unexpected and extraordinary an indulgence.

Honourable the Committee of Correſpondence, &c.

Although you may think proper to deprive your ſervants of thoſe advantages, which I ſo ſtrongly recommended in my minute in Committee, upon the ſubject of new modelling the ſalt trade, yet I cannot help taking the liberty to requeſt you will moſt maturely deliberate upon your preſent plan, before you iſſue an order which will deprive the Company of three hundred thouſand pounds (£. 300,000) per annum, a ſum which, I am of opinion, they are juſtly intitled to, if they receive the benefits lately received by their ſervants, and the duties which the Select Committee had allotted to them upon this trade; whereas the Company, by your laying the trade open, and taking only ten rupees per hundred maund, will receive only (£. 31,500) thirty one thouſand five hundred pounds.

I muſt farther preſume to obſerve to you, that even upon the plan you now propoſe, the trade will, as it ever muſt, continue in ſome degree a monopoly; and that the ſervants, from the power and influence they have throughout the country, may be concerned in it to what extent they will, under their Banyans, and the black merchants.

It was only by accident that I became acquainted with your intentions. I am entirely a ſtranger to the contents of the letters, which are now upon the point of being diſpatched, by the admiral Watſon, to the governor and council, and to the Select Committee, of Bengal; but I hope this repreſentation will reach you in good time, that you may reconſider an object ſo very important to the Company's intereſt. I have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect,

Gentlemen,

Your moſt obedient and
moſt humble Servant,

CLIVE,

No. 61.

No. 61.

Extract of a Letter from the Directors to the president and Council at Fort William, Bengal; dated 20th November 1767.

88. WE have taken your plan for conducting the salt trade, as contained in your proceedings of the 8th September 1766, into our most serious consideration; and having revised all that we and you have wrote, on the subject of the inland trade in general, and of salt in particular, we are the more convinced of the absolute necessity of excluding all persons whatsoever, excepting the natives only, from being concerned therein; and we accordingly hereby ratify and confirm the orders we gave in our letters, of the 19th February, and 17th May 1766, that no Company's servant, free merchant, or any European, shall, in any mode or shape whatsoever, either by themselves or agents, directly or indirectly, trade in or be concerned in carrying on an inland trade, in salt, beetle-nut, tobacco, or in any other articles produced and consumed in the country; and such trade is hereby absolutely abolished, and put a final end to, agreeable to our before mentioned orders; and further, if any of the before described persons shall, directly or indirectly, carry on or be concerned in such inland trade, or in farming the Callaries, or making salt; if a Company's servant, he is to be immediately dismissed the Company's Service; and from all others the Company's protection is to be forthwith withdrawn.

89. Having thus prohibited our servants from being concerned in the inland trade, the allowance of $1\frac{1}{6}$ per cent. commission on the dewanny revenues, settled by you on the governor, for relinquishing all share in the salt trade, is absolutely to determine and cease upon the first day of September 1767.

90. Past experience has so impressed us with the idea of the necessity of confining our servants, and Europeans residing under our protection, within the ancient limits of our export and import trade, that we look on every innovation in the inland trade as an intrusion on the natural right of the natives of the country, who now more particularly claim our protection; and we esteem it as much our duty to maintain this barrier between the two commercial rights, as to defend the provinces from foreign invasions.

91. Our principal object being the ease and convenience of the natives, we have considered in what manner the important trade in salt can be carried on, so as to supply the whole country with this material necessary of life on the easiest terms, and the least liable to oppression.

92. For this purpose we direct, that the salt trade be laid open to the natives in general, under the following regulations; viz. That all the Callaries or salt pans, within the Company's jurisdiction, in the Calcutta purgannahs and Company's lands, and the provinces of Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, be put up to public sale at their respective capitals, and sold to the best bidder, five Callaries in each Lot; and that no one person be allowed to take more than 30 Lots, which we judge will enable him to make about 45 or 50 thousand Buzar Maunds of salt in the year; and that two months notice be given all over the country before the sale begins; and all Europeans are hereby expressly prohibited from being bidders at such sales, or holding any of the salt works in their hands, either directly or indirectly.

93. If there are any Callaries under the jurisdiction of the nabob's government, the same method is to be recommended to the administration at Moorshedabad.

94. It is represented to us, that the salt made in every part of the country, except what is necessary for the consumption of the districts where it is produced, should be carried to and landed at Rajah Barey, and a Creek or small river opposite to Barnagore; and the people of the country to make their purchases there, and pay a duty on all salt carried from thence, at such rate as will, upon the nearest estimation you can possibly make, produce to the revenue £. 100,000 at least, and not exceeding £. 120,000 per annum; the amount being in this manner ascertained, it will be easy to settle how many Sicca rupees per one hundred Buza Maunds it will amount to, and the duty is to be rated accordingly. Could we from any of your registers have learned what Quantity of salt is made and consumed in the country, we might then have had sufficient grounds to have proceeded on to settle, in this letter, with precision, the duty; but not having such informations we must leave it to you to cause it to be adjusted in the before mentioned manner.

95. If, besides the above, there are any other places by which salt may pass up the country, in any of the provinces, you are to conform to the intention of this order, with respect to such places.

96. That on payment of the above duty to the country collectors, the purchaser is to receive a dustuck, to carry his salt to any part of the country he chuses, free from all other duties.—The like duty is to be levied on all salt carried by land through the patcheet passes, from the countries of Burdwan, Midnapore and other places,

97. The collecting the said duty, we conceive, will fall under the orders of the government of Moorshedabad, and will be accounted for in the revenues of the dewanny.

98. That all makers of salt be obliged to deliver in every year an account of the quantity of salt they have made, and at what places the same has been landed, which must appear upon the face of your proceedings.

99. If any boats are found smuggling of salt, the same to be confiscated to the government, boat and salt; which will prevent the owners of the boats from receiving any salt that has not paid

paid the duty; and that notice of the ſame be publiſhed all over the country.

100. That all foreign ſalt landed in Bengal pay the beforementioned duty, or more, if it ſhall be found neceſſary, for the encouragement of the manufactures of ſalt in Bengal.

101. To prevent all abuſe of the Engliſh influence, we think proper to enjoin, and the ſame is accordingly to be made known in the moſt public manner; that any boat having ſalt on board, hoiſting Engliſh colours, or pretending to an Engliſh duſtuck, ſhall be liable to confiſcation, together with the cargo; and the nabob's miniſters will ſeize the ſame, as forfeited to the government.

102. Having eſtabliſhed theſe regulations for the ſalt trade, we now confirm our orders for the prohibition of our ſervants engaging in all other inland trade, in articles produced and conſumed in the country, ſave only ſuch articles as are for exportation, by ſhipping to a foreign market; which will be intitled to an Engliſh duſtuck, as part of the export trade, within the intention of the phirmaund; and here we remark with ſome ſurprize, in the Committee's proceedings of the 22d October, that beetle nut and tobacco are among thoſe articles, which is contrary to the ſpirit of the Phirmaund and the tenor of our orders.

103. The duties to becollected on the other inland trade will fall under the direction of the adminiſtration at Moorſhedabad, in which you will recommend the ſame attention to the good of the Natives, as we have in theſe regulations for the ſalt trade.

104. We hope this freedom of trade will be the means of keeping ſalt at a low price; but if ever it ſhould be ſold, at the places we have limited, at or above one hundred and forty Sicca Rupees, for 100 Buzar Maunds, incluing the duty, we ſhall eſteem it too high a price for the natives to pay; and we do expect that, under your influence, and that of the Moorſhedabad adminiſtration, the price never exceeds the ſaid 140 Sicca Rupees, unleſs in the caſe of ſome general calamity, for we had rather the duty ſhould be diminiſhed than ſalt ſhould exceed that price.

105. As the trade of our ſervants is to be confined to the articles of import and export only, in which they will be conſiderably affected by the great demands for extending the Company's inveſtments; and conſidering the great increaſe of buſineſs, in which our principal ſervants are neceſſarily engaged, and which demand their utmoſt care and attention; we are come to a reſolution to give them a reaſonable encouragement to exert themſelves with zeal and alacrity in their ſeveral departments, but which they are to look upon as a free gift from the hand of their employers, offered to them annually, ſo long as the preſent revenues ſhall remain with the Company, and their behaviour ſhall continue to merit ſuch a reward: We therefore hereby order and direct,

106. That you draw out an annual account of the ſums received from the Dewanny, deducting thereout the ſtipulated payments to the King and the Nabob, and the allowance to the Nabob's miniſters—alſo of the revenues of the Provinces of Burdwan, Midnapore, Chittagong, and the Calcutta Purgunnahs; from which are to be deducted Lord Clive's Jaghire, and the ordinary charges of collection.

107. Upon the amount of the ſaid net revenues your are hereby indulged to draw a commiſſion of two and an half per cent.

108. The Sum which ſhall be the produce of the ſaid 2½ per cent. is to be divided into 100 parts or ſhares; which parts or ſhares are to be appropriated in the following manner, viz.

The governor is to have	—	—	—	31 ſhares,
The ſecond in council	—	—	—	4½ ditto,
The reſt of the Select Committee, not having a Cieſſhip, each	—			3½ ditto,
The reſt of the Council, not having a Chiefſhip each	—			1½

109. For it is our meaning and directions, that the Chiefs of Coſſimbuzar, Patna, Dacca, and Chittagong, are not to have any proportion of the ſaid ſhares.

110. Being convinced that the employs of reſident at the Durbar and Chief Coſſimbuzar, cannot, from the importance and extent of the buſineſs of each department, be properly executed by one perſon, we therefore direct that they be from this time forward ſeparated, and that ſome other member of the council be appointed to the ſaid Chiefſhip; we do not make this regulation from any failure of attention on the part of Mr. Sykes, with whoſe conduct we are perfectly ſatisfied.

111 And in conſideration of the extraordinary trouble and attention, which the reſident at the Durbar muſt neceſſarily have in the due execution of that important poſt, we direct that he be allowed four ſhares and an half, but this is to be underſtood to be in full, and inſtead of ſuch ſhares as are aſſigned, as above mentioned, to his rank in council, or as a member of the Select Committee.

112. The large proportion allotted to the governor in the before mentioned commiſſion of 2½ per cent. is in conſideration of his relinquiſhing, and not being concerned in, any trade whatever, even in articles of import and export, and all preſents or other gratifications, as expreſſed in the deed of renunciation in your proceedings of the 22d September 1766, which we approve and confirm; and direct that all governors do execute the like inſtrument on their entering into their office: Our inducement for annexing ſo great an appointment to the ſtation of preſident and governor, is in full expectation of his giving up his whole time and attention

to the faithful diſcharge of his duty; and that, being excluded from all trade himſelf, he may, and we accordingly depend that he be, vigilant in watching and detecting all abuſes committed by others.

113. You are to obſerve that the ſhares of the commiſſion here ſpecified for the governor is additional to his preſent ſalary of three thouſand pounds per annum, and his Mint Duty and Conſulage, and the ſhares to other ſervants are to be in addition to their preſent appointments of ſalary, diet money, and the poſts they may reſpectively hold, excepting the Chiefſhip, as before excepted.

114. Being ſatisfied how much our trade and poſſeſſions may be affected by the good ſervices to the Company's Military Officers; therefore, the better to encourage them to exert themſelves in the preſervation of theſe great objects, we have thought proper to allow them alſo to ſhare in the following manner; viz.

The commander in chief (as ſuch only, he not being to ſhare as a member of the Select Committee or Council) to have —	7 ½ ſhares.
Colonels, each — — —	2 ½
Lieutenant Colonels, each — — —	1 ½
Majors, each — — —	¾

115. The ample proviſion here aſſigned to the commander in chief aſſures him of an honourable competency; and we expect Colonel Smith, and his ſucceſſors in the command, ſhall continue to ſhew an unremitting attention to their duty, and the preventing all frauds and abuſes in the expences of the army.

116. The allowance made to the reſt of the field officers are ſuch as put our ſervice on a more advantageous footing than any other military ſervice in the world, and gives them the proſpect of improving their fortunes by a gradual progreſſion.

117. After all the allowances are made to the Company's principal civil and military ſervants, as before directed, a conſiderable proportion of the 2 ½ per cent. commiſſion will remain unappropriated; in order therefore to encourage the reſt of the Company's military officers, and to remove every complaint of reduction of double batta, we have thought proper to make them, over and above their preſent eſtabliſhed pay, the following allowances, by way of donation or gratuity only, and which are to be paid them accordingly; viz.

To a Captain—three Shillings a day;
To a Lieutenant—two Shillings a day;
To an Enſign—one Shilling a day.

But we muſt here obſerve to you, and accordingly direct that neither a colonel, lieutenant colonel, or major, is to be allowed the three ſhillings a day as captain of a company; the ſhares we have allotted them in the produce of the 2 ½ per cent. upon the revenues being in full of our donation or gratuity, as well for their being captains as field officers; and here it is proper to inform you, that it is our poſitive order and direction, that the double batta be never reſtored to any of our officers whatſoever.

118. We have now to add, and we accordingly direct, that the beforementioned commiſſions of 2 ½ per cent, do commence from the 1ſt day of September 1767; but as we have before ordered that the allowance made to the governor of 1 ⅛ part per cent. on the dewanny revenues is abſolutely to determine and ceaſe on that day; we further direct, that, from the ſaid 1ſt day of September laſt, to the time of the arrival of theſe advices, an allowance of 1 ⅛ per cent. on the Company's nett territorial revenues be made to the governor, and that then the ſum ariſing from the remaining 1 ⅛ per cent. which completes the 2 ½ per cent. commiſſion, be proportioned among our principal ſervants, civil and military, pro rata, according to the reſpective ſhares allotted them by our preſent appointment; and your are to take notice that from and after your receiving theſe diſpatches, the amount of the 2 ½ per cent. commiſſion is to be appropriated in the manner before directed.

No. 62.

15th September 1769.

Extract from Inſtructions to Commiſſioners.

27. WE enjoin you to enquire into ſuch abuſes as have been committed or practiſed in carrying on and continuing an excluſive trade in the articles of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, contrary to the expreſs directions and orders tranſmitted by the Court of Directors. We direct you to enquire into the reaſons why ſuch orders have been diſobeyed or neglected; and it is our intention, that thoſe trades be laid open to all perſons, as well natives as Europeans; and that Engliſh ſubjects be permitted to trade therein only upon the ſame footing, and under the ſame duties and reſtrictions, as natives or other ſubjects do. You will take particular care that theſe duties or regulations be not evaded, under pretence of any reſpect due unto, or the influence of the Engliſh Flag.

No. 63.

THIS indenture, made the eleventh day of September, in the 5th year of the reign of, &c. and in the year of our Lord 1765, between the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, baron of Plaſſey, in the Kingdom of Ireland, knight companion of the moſt noble order of the Bath, and preſident and governor of Fort William, at Bengal, in the Eaſt Indies; Wm. B. Sumner, brigadier general John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aſcanius Wm. Senior, R. Leyceſter, and George Gray, being the Council of Fort William aforeſaid, Eſquires, for and on behalf of the Court of Directors of the Honourable the United Eaſt India Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, on the one part, and the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Raph Leyceſter, and George Gray, being a committee, nominated, conſtituted, and appointed, by the proprietors, entitled to the excluſive joint trade of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, produced, and to be produced, in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, for the better conducting, managing, and carrying on the ſaid trade, on the other part: whereas in and by a certain deed, or inſtrument in writing, bearing date the 18th day of September, 1765, and made, or mentioned to be made, between the ſaid proprietors to the ſaid joint trade, on the one part, and the above named William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, on the other part; it is witneſſed, amongſt other things, that, in order for the better carrying on and managing the ſaid joint trade in a beneficial manner, and moſt for the benefit and advantage of the ſaid proprietors, it was and is agreed by and between the parties in the ſaid deed mentioned, that the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize ſhould, from and after the 18th day of September, 1765, be conducted, managed, tranſacted, and carried on, by them the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, conſtituting a committee for the management thereof, but with the proper monies, and at the joint riſk and hazard, and for the joint account, uſe, and benefit of all the ſaid proprietors, their ſeveral and reſpective executors and adminiſtrators, in the ſeveral proportions therein ſet forth. And it was and is alſo further agreed, by and between the ſaid parties, that the form and ſignature under which the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize ſhould be conducted and carried on, ſhould be the ſign manual of them the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and their ſucceſſors for the time being, conſtituting a committee as aforeſaid, togerher with the ſeal of the ſociety of trade, with full power and authority to the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and their ſucceſſors, to uſe the ſame, from the ſaid 8th day of September, 1765, until the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize ſhould ceaſe, and be no longer carried on for the uſe of the ſaid proprietors, as in and by the ſaid deed, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear. Now this indenture witneſſeth, that, in conſideration of the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray's taking upon themſelves the ſole management and conduction of the ſaid joint trade, on behalf of the ſaid proprietors, and having laid out and expended large ſums of money to carry on the ſame, and in order to enforce the execution of all and every the covenants, clauſes, grants, articles, and agreements, in the before recited deed mentioned and contained, as the ſame are therein reſpectively expreſſed; and alſo in conſideration of the duties and cuſtoms that ſhall or may ariſe, or accrue, by reaſon of the carrying on the ſaid excluſive joint trade of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, according to the true intent and meaning of the ſaid herein before recited deed, to be paid to them the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, W. B. Sumner, J. C. C. S. P. H. V. J. S. J. C. R. M. H. W. A. W. S. S. M. R. L. and G. G. as preſident and council of Fort William aforeſaid, for and on accout of the ſaid honourable the United Eaſt India Company, by them the ſaid W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and G. G. and their ſucceſſors, conſtituting a Committee as aforeſaid, for and on account of the proprietors entitled to the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize, in the proportions herein after mentioned; that is to ſay, 35 per cent. on ſalt, each 100 maunds to be valued and reckoned at 90 Rs. the ſum of 10 per cent. on beetle nut, to be valued and reckoned at the prime coſt, and the ſum of 25 per cent. on tobacco, to be valued and reckoned at the prime coſt, and alſo, that the ſaid joint trade and merchandize, may not ceaſe or be diſſolved before the expiration of the term in the ſaid recited deed mentioned, or any hindrance or ſtoppage be put to the ſame, the ſaid Robert Lord Clive as Preſident, and the ſaid W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, H. Verelſt, Francis Sykes, John Carter, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aſcanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. as council of Fort William aforeſaid, for and on behalf of the ſaid court of Directors of the Honourable the United Eaſt India Company aforeſaid, do hereby, for themſelves and their ſucceſſors, their executors and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and their ſucceſſors, their heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, that, provided any order or direction ſhould iſſue, or be made, by the ſaid Court of Directors in England, thereby ordering and directing the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize to be diſſolved, or put to an end, or that may hinder and ſtop the carrying on the ſame, or any part thereof, or contain any thing contrary to the covenants, clauſes, grants, articles, or agreements, in the ſaid before recited deed mentioned and contained, or

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any of them, ſo that the ſame may thereby become void and of no effect, then and in that caſe, they the ſaid Robert Lord Clive as preſident, W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aſcanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. as council of Fort William aforeſaid, ſhall and will well and truly ſave harmleſs and keep indemnified, them the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and all the proprietors entitled, or to be entitled, to the ſaid joint trade, and their ſucceſſors, their executors and adminiſtrators; and alſo ſhall and will, notwithſtanding any order or direction to be iſſued to the contrary as aforeſaid, keep up, continue, and enforce, or cauſe to be kept up, continued, and enforced, the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize, for the term of one year, to commence from the 18th day of September, 1765, and expire on the 18th day of September, 1766, according to the true intent and meaning of the ſaid before recited deed, and of all the parties thereto, as if the ſaid order and direction had never been made or iſſued; and further, that the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, W. B. S. John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, H. V. Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aſcanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, R. L. and G. G. and their ſucceſſors, as Preſident and Council aforeſaid, ſhall and will allow unto them, the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and their ſucceſſors, conſtituting a committee as aforeſaid, full and ſufficient time, after the expiration of the ſaid term of one year as aforeſaid, to ſell, vend, and diſpoſe of all ſuch goods and merchandize, belonging to the ſaid joint trade and concern, as ſhall at that time remain in their hands unſold, and not diſpoſed of, and alſo to collect and gather in all ſuch ſum and ſums of money as ſhall be any ways due or owing unto them the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, or their ſucceſſors, on account of the ſaid proprietors and joint trade aforeſaid, and to ſettle and adjuſt all books and accounts belonginging to and concerning the ſame; and the ſaid W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and Geo. Gray, do hereby for themſelves and the reſt of the proprietors entitled to the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, as aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, covenant, promiſe, and agree to and with the R. Ld. Clive, W. B. S. J. C. C. S. P. H. V. L. S. J. C. R. M. H. W. A. W. S. J. M. R. L. and G. G. as preſident and council of Fort William aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, for the time being, that they the ſaid W. B. S. H. V. R. L. and G. G. conſtituting a Committee as aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, from time to time, ſhall and will well and truly pay and diſcharge the duties and cuſtoms of the ſaid articles of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, at and after the rates herein before mentioned and expreſſed, of and concerning the ſame, to the right honourable the preſident and council of Fort William aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, or to whom they ſhall from time to time direct and appoint to receive the ſame; and the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Francis Sykes, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aſcanius William Senior, and Samuel Middleton, do hereby bind and oblige themſelves and their ſucceſſors, their executors and adminiſtrators, jointly unto them the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, on behalf of themſelves and the ſaid proprietors, in the penal ſum of for the true and faithful obſerving, performing, fulfilling, and keeping, all and every the covenants herein contained, and which, on their parts and behalf, are or ought to be performed, obſerved, fulfilled, and kept as aforeſaid. In witneſs, &c.

R. WHITTALL.
Oct. 1765.

No. 64.

THIS indenture, made the eighteenth day of September, in fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of GOD, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and ſo forth, and in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five; between the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Baron of Plaſſey, in the kingdom of Ireland, Knight Companion of the Moſt Honourable Order of the Bath, and Preſident and Governor of Fort William at Bengal, in the Eaſt Indies; William Brightwell Sumner, Brigadier General John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, Aſcanius William Senior, Samuel Middleton, Ralph Lyceſter, and George Gray, being the Council of Fort William aforeſaid, Eſquires, for, and on behalf of the Court of Directors of the Honourable the United Eaſt India Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, on the one part, and the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Lyceſter, and George Gray, being a Committee nominated, conſtituted and appointed by the Proprietors, intitled to the excluſive joint trade of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, produced, and to be produced, in the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, for the better conducting, managing, and carrying on the ſaid trade, on the other part. Whereas, in and by a certain deed or inſtrument in writing, bearing date the eighteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, and made, or mentioned to be made, between the ſaid Proprietors of the

ſaid

ſaid joint trade, on the one part, and the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Vereiſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, on the other part: it is witneſſed amongſt other things, That in order for the better carrying on and managing the ſaid joint trade in a beneficial manner, and moſt for the benefit and advantage of the ſaid Proprietors, it was and is agreed, by and between the parties in the ſaid deed mentioned, that the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize ſhould, from and after the ſaid eighteenth day of September, be conducted, managed, tranſacted, and carried on by them, the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, conſtituting a Committee for the management thereof, but with the proper monies, and at the joint riſk and hazard, and on the joint account, uſe and benefit, of all the ſaid Proprietors, their ſeveral and reſpective executors and adminiſtrators, in the ſeveral proportions therein ſet forth; and it was and is alſo further agreed, by and between the ſaid parties, That the form and ſignature underneath the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize ſhould be conducted and carried on, ſhould be the ſign manual of them, the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and their ſucceſſors, for the time being, conſtituting a Committee, as aforeſaid, together with the ſeal of the Society of Trade, with full power and authority to the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and their ſucceſſors, to uſe the ſame, from the ſaid eighteenth day of September, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, until the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize ſhould ceaſe and be no longer carried on for the uſe of the ſaid Proprietors, as in and by the ſaid deed, reference being thereunto had, will more fully and at large appear: now this indenture witneſſeth, That in conſideration of the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, taking upon themſelves the ſole management and conduction of the ſaid joint trade, for and on behalf of the ſaid Proprietors, and having laid out and expended large ſums of money to carry on the ſame, and in order to enforce the execution of all and every the covenants, clauſes, articles, and agreements in the ſaid before recited deed mentioned and contained, as the ſame are therein reſpectively expreſſed, and alſo in conſideration of the duties and cuſtoms that ſhall or may ariſe or accrue by reaſon of the carrying on the ſaid excluſive joint trade of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, according to the true intent and meaning of the ſaid herein before recited deed, to be paid to them the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, John Carnac, Charles Stafford Playdell, Harry Verelſt, Francis Sykes, John Cartier, Randolph Marriott, Hugh Watts, &c. as preſident and council of Fort William aforeſaid, for and on account of the ſaid Honourable the United Eaſt India Company, by them the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their ſucceſſors, conſtituting a Committee as aforeſaid, for and on account of the Proprietors intitled to the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize, in the proportion herein after mentioned; that is to ſay, the ſum of thirty-five *per cent.* on ſalt, each one hundred maunds to be valued and reckoned at ninety Arcot rupees; the ſum of ten *per cent.* on beetle nut, and twenty-five *per cent.* on tobacco, both to be valued and reckoned at the prime coſt; and likewiſe, that the ſaid joint trade and merchandize may not ceaſe or be diſſolved before the expiration of the term in the ſaid herein before recited deed mentioned, or any hindrance or ſtoppage be put to the ſame, the ſaid Right Honourable Lord Clive as preſident, and the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, &c. as council of Fort William aforeſaid, for and on behalf of the ſaid Court of Directors of the Honourable the United Eaſt India Company aforeſaid, do hereby, for themſelves and their ſucceſſors, their executors and adminiſtrators, covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their ſucceſſors, their heirs, executors and adminiſtrators, that provided any order ſhould iſſue or be made by the ſaid Court of Directors in England, thereby ordering and directing the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize to be diſſolved, or put to an end, or that may hinder and ſtop the carrying on of the ſame or any part thereof, or contain any thing contrary to the covenants, clauſes, grants, articles, or agreements in the ſaid herein before recited deed mentioned and contained, or any of them, ſo that the ſame may thereby become void and of no effect; then, and in that caſe, they the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, as preſident, W. B. Sumner, &c. as council of Fort William aforeſaid, ſhall and will well and truly ſave harmleſs and keep indemnified them, the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, and all the Proprietors intitled or to be entitled to the ſaid excluſive joint trade, and their ſucceſſors, their executors and adminiſtrators, and alſo ſhall and will, notwithſtanding any order or direction to be iſſued to the contrary as aforeſaid, keep up, continue and enforce, or cauſe to be kept up, continued and enforced, the ſaid excluſive joint trade, for the term of one year, to commence from the ſaid eighteenth day of September one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, and expire on the eighteenth day of September one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix, according to the true intent and meaning of the ſaid before recited deed and of all the parties thereto, as if the ſaid order had never been made or iſſued: And further, that the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, &c. and their ſucceſſors, as preſident and council aforeſaid, ſhall and will allow unto them, the ſaid W. B. Sumner, &c. conſtituting a Committee as aforeſaid, full and ſufficient time, after the expiration of the ſaid term of one year aforeſaid, to ſell, vend, and diſpoſe of all ſuch goods and merchandize, belonging to the ſaid joint trade and concern, as ſhall at that time remain in their hands unſold and not diſpoſed of; and alſo to collect or gather in all ſuch ſum or ſums of money as ſhall be any ways due or owing unto them the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt,

Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, or their ſucceſſors, on account of the ſaid Proprietors and joint trade aforeſaid, and to ſettle and adjuſt all books and accounts belonging to and concerning the ſame; and the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, do hereby, for themſelves and the reſt of the Proprietors intitled to the ſaid excluſive joint trade and merchandize of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, as aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, covenant, promiſe, and agree, to and with the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, William Brightwell Sumner, John Carnac, &c. as preſident and council of Fort William aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, for the time being, That they the ſaid William Brightwell Sumner, &c. conſtituting a Committee as aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, from time to time, ſhall and will well and truly pay and diſcharge the duties and cuſtoms of the ſaid articles of ſalt, beetle nut, and tobacco, at and after the rates herein before mentioned and expreſſed of and concerning the ſame, to the Right Honourable the Preſident and Council of Fort William aforeſaid, or their ſucceſſors, or to whom they ſhall from time to time appoint to receive the ſame: And laſtly, the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, and every of them, do hereby bind and oblige themſelves and their ſucceſſors, their heirs, executors, and adminiſtrators, the one to the other of them, in the penal ſum of eight lacks of current rupees, for the true and faithful performance of all and every the covenants herein contained, and which, on their parts and behalfs, are or ought to be performed, fulfilled, and kept as aforeſaid. In witneſs whereof all the parties to theſe preſents have hereunto ſet their hands and ſeals, the day and year firſt above written.

(Signed)	(Signed)	(Signed)
Ralph Leycester (L. S.)	A. W. Senior (L. S.)	Franſ. Sykes (L. S.)
John Carnac (L. S.)	Clive (L. S.)	George Gray (L. S.)
Samᵘ. Middleton (L. S.)	Hugh Watts (L. S.)	Randᵘ Marriott (L. S.)
H. Verelst (L. S.)	W. B. Sumner (L. S.)	

(Copy.)

The Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, Preſident, and the Council of Fort William
T O
William Brightwell Sumner, Harry Verelſt, Ralph Leyceſter, and George Gray, conſtituting a Committee for managing the excluſive joint trade of ſalt, &c.

} Deed of Indemnity, and to protect the ſaid Trade.

No. 65.

STATE of the DUANNEE REVENUES of the East India Company's Territorial Acquisitions, from May 1765 to the last Advices, with the Amount of Charges, Collecting, &c. and Civil and Military Charges, with the Nett Annual Balance.

	REVENUES.									CHARGES.					
	Gross Collections.	Charges of Collection, &c.	Tribute to the King paid.	Nabob's Stipend paid.	Salaries to Ministers, &c. paid.	Jaghire paid.	Commission paid on the Revenues.	Nett Revenues.		Civil.	Military.	Buildings and Fortifications.	Total Charges.		Net Annual Balance; or, Revenues more than Charges.
May. April.	Lst.	Lst.	Lst.	Lst.	Lst.	Lst.	Lst.	Lst.		Lst.	Lst.	Lst.	Lst.		Lst.
1765 to 1766	2,258,227	174,442	26,897	330,125	4,930	40,406	— —	1,681,427		214,352	886,909	109,098	1,210,360		471,067
1766—1767	3,805,817	417,014	205,766	534,353	72,745	29 912	18,433	2,527,594		269,855	903,831	100,407	1,274,093		1,253,501
1767—1768	3,608,009	348,965	300,030	371,824	175,696	29,096	23,393	2,359,005		273,308	991,966	222,109	1,487,383		871,622
1768—1769	3,787,207	335,966	356,610	413,330	148,394	29,096	101,620	2,402,191		296,373	1,0 8,577	258,179	1,573,129		829,062
1769—1770	3,341,976	349,849	282,005	402,928	153,540	29,096	35,190	2,089,368		300,598	1,102,132	349,826	1,752,556		336,812
1770—1771	3,332,343	358,091	382,473	371,249	136,054	29,096	48,204	2,007,176		254,908	1,093,006	384,174	1,732,088		275,088
Lst.	20,133,579	1,984,327	1,553,781	2,423,809	691,359	186,702	226,840	13,066,761	Lst.	1,609,395	5,996,421	1,423,793	9.029,609	Lst.	4,037,152

East India House,
26th February, 1773.

Errors excepted,

JOHN HOOLE,
Auditor of Indian Accounts.

No. 66.

STATE of the RECEIPTS of the NORTHERN CIRCARS, from the Time of the Grant of them to the laſt Advices.

March 1766 to April 1767.	Received of ſundry Zemindars and Renters, &c.	Lſt.	140,618
May 1767 to April 1768.	Received as above	——	128,556
May 1768 to April 1769.	Received as above	——	183,010
May 1769 to April 1770.	Received as above	——	320,512
May 1770 to April 1771.	Received as above	——	351,719
May 1771 to December 1771.	Received as above	——	106,040
		Lſt.	1,235,455

East India Houſe,
26 February, 1773.

Errors excepted.

JOHN HOOLE, Auditor of Indian Accounts.

No. 67.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

THE addreſs herewith ſent to the Right Honourable Preſident and Council, from the ſhortneſs of the time ſince I have had the opportunity of ſeeing the papers of the Select Committee, and from the hurry of my departure, I have not been able to finiſh till this moment; it reſts with your Lordſhip and Council to permit it to go home by this ſhip, that my reply may appear with my accuſation, which I ſubmit to your juſtice.

And am, with reſpect,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,

Oct. 1ſt, 1765.

JOHN JOHNSTONE.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive, Preſident and Governor, &c. Council of Fort William.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I received the minutes of the Right Honourable the Preſident, and the other three members of the committee, forwarded to me from the ſecretary, under date the 24th June.

The reaſons why I declined entering on any defence before the committee, as my judges, I have already, in part, mentioned in my minute: I could not, in juſtice to myſelf, ſubmit to be tried and judged by the committee, who acted ſo much as parties and proſecutors. The methods uſed by them to get evidence againſt me, appeared ſo great a violation of that liberty and freedom, that as a Britain I had a right to, That I could hope for no impartial juſtice from thoſe who ſet out in a manner ſo totally ſubvertive of the laws and liberty of the ſubject. Could I hope, that theſe gentlemen, who would confine, under military guards, in the moſt rigorous and terrifying manner, the men they thought intruſted with my ſecrets; and that under theſe undue influences would oblige them to violate their truſt, faith, and gratitude, and to give anſwers to enſnare themſelves, or injure their benfactors, would not eſteem ſuch evidence, even ſo obtained, ſufficient handle to purſue their deſigns againſt me, and to adjudge me culpable: When I ſaw Mahomed Reza Cawn and Jugget Seet, men who had a few days before acknowledged the higheſt obligations to me, and dependance on my friendſhip to ſave their honour and poſts, and curry favour, led to relate and ſwear, without being confronted, or even examined in our hearing, to matters known to be falſe to the reſt of the gentlemen as well as to me, I objected, and ſtill object, and deny any evidence ſo procured: neither could I conſider narratives extorted by hope of favour, or fear of diſgrace, as complaints lodged againſt me by the men themſelves; for Jugget Seet moſt avowedly declares, at the concluſion of this narrative That enquiry being made of him by theſe gentlemen (Undil Eſtiſſari i Sahibau) he has wrote the above, in which there is not a word of untruth. How well this declaration agrees with the profeſſions of ſatisfaction, and offers of ſervice, the Seets had of their own accord made in their letter to me after my return here, and when the expected committee were arrived, I beg the unbiaſſed to judge from peruſing their letter, of which a copy is herewith ſent, and whether if Jugget Seet had not been made to perceive how agreeable ſuch a charge would be to the gentlemen of the committee he would of himſelf made any, or thought he had any good cauſe to complain of the behaviour of the deputation to him at the city. The terror and apprehenſion Mahomed Reza Cawn was in, from the advantage he ſuppoſed would be taken by his enemies to ruin him, when he was not permitted to come down with the Nabob, was known to every body. The anxiety of his mind was ſtill further increaſed, when ordered down by a letter from Lord Clive, under his great ſeal; this, and what he had been made to underſtand, that all the buſineſs of moment was taken from out of the hands of the council, made him decline either

to

to receive or pay viſits to thoſe gentlemen, who but a few days before he had avowed his greateſt friends. When views of intereſt and time-ſerving can make men ſo forgetful of all gratitude and honour, what credit can, or ought to be paid to what they ſay? Mahomed Reza Cawn found himſelf obnoxious to the nabob, and accuſed by him to the Committee; that the former council, to whom he owed his ſtation, were no longer in power to ſupport him; that Nundcomar, whom he conſidered as his mortal enemy, was releaſed, untried, and admitted to the higheſt confidence and tenor with the nabob; nay, as he ſent me word, that he had ventured even to ſign again as Duan to the nabob; that the Committee ſet themſelves up as the judge of the council, in ſuch ſituation, where he had every thing to fear from their diſpleaſure, every thing to expect from their favour. What man would admit himſelf to be judged by narratives obtained under ſuch circumſtances, as by lawful evidence upon oath, where the witneſs ſwears, He is neither actuated by hope or fear? As proofs of his terrible apprehenſions from the ſchemes of his enemies, and his dependance on my aſſiſtance, and the ſentiment he entertained of my former obligations, and of the little faith ought to be given to repreſentations obtained of the ſame man, who can in ſo ſhort a ſpace accommodate to the times, I beg leave to refer to three letters he wrote me after my arrival in Calcutta, and to one from Mootyram, to which he refers. his referring back to preſents he had made months before this of himſelf to Mr. Spencer, and inſerting the name of Mr. Cartier to what that gentleman was ignorant of, and in which, whatever had been done was done by himſelf after I came away, ſhews how much he ſtudied to gain an intereſt with the committee by relating thoſe particulars, though ſo ſtrong marks of his ſervility and black ingratitude, when ſuch increaſe of honour and power was heaped, without any additional merit in this man but what his narratives could claim, and the whole torrent of perſecution was let looſe againſt the receivers of the Nabob's preſents, inſtead of giving him any redreſs againſt Mahomed Reza Cawn, the man he complained againſt, as the giver away of his money, without his knowledge or conſent. Whether theſe proceedings have been carried on to the length they are for other motives, or from the deſire of rendering ſatisfaction to the Nabob, whoſe inclinations or intereſt appear to be ſo little attended to in the ſubſequent regulations and tranſactions of the committee, the world, on a knowledge of facts, will judge; in my minute I mentioned in my objecting to the evidence of Mootyram, when the preſident had deſired he might be brought before the board, and queſtioned to the truth of what had been wrote down as his anſwer on oath, for the ſame reaſons as before mentioned, that while under the pains and terrors of an unjuſt confinement by an unlawful power exerted towards him, no ſuch evidence can be eſteemed free and voluntary; and becauſe he muſt have that apprehenſion of ſtill harder puniſhment, ſhould he deviate any thing from what had been put down as his evidence in the confuſion he repreſents himſelf to have been in when firſt carried priſoner and examined before them the 8th; nevertheleſs this examination, the moſt unprecedented perhaps has been heard of in any Engliſh colony, enjoying his majeſty's moſt gracious charter of liberties, was gone through before an aſſembly of his majeſty's juſtices of peace, that had been wrote down as the queſtions and anſwers of his examination of the 8th, was read to the priſoner, and he again ſworn to make true anſwer, though this was plainly putting the anſwer into the evidence's mouth that he ſhould give: and though his deviating in this reſpect in any court, intirely invalidates his former evidence, and made him liable to perjury; yet even under this dilemma did Mootyram, as I underſtand, differ in his evidence, in what had been laid the greateſt ſtreſs on: Firſt, he is made to deny the firſt queſtion he had ſworn point blank before that he went to Juggut Seet to demand money: by this he contradicts himſelf in his firſt evidence, and contradicts Juggut Seet's narrative, which he is made to acknowledge, as being every word true: afterwards in the examination, he ſays, he ſpoke nothing, but that Iſmael Aly Khan ſpoke and demanded three laaks of rupees. Jugget Seet in his narrative makes Mootyram come and demand five laaks, but takes no notice of Iſmael Aly Khan; and Mooryram in his evidence is made to anſwer, that he demanded this money of the Seets, and that he demanded it on account of the gentlemen, and thoſe that ſent him. It is plain, this relation of the ſame converſation no ways agrees: let it be here remarked, that Mootyram never has ventured to aſſert, he was ſent by me, or any of the gentlemen, to aſk money of the Seets; yet he is made to reply, that he demanded the money (viz. the ſum mentioned in Jugget Seet's narrative, five laaks) on account of the gentlemen, and thoſe that ſent him: Iſmael Aly Khan, by Mootyram's anſwer in the examination of the 8th, is made to demand three laaks; the firſt viſit in Mootyram's preſence and Mootyram in Jugget Seet's narrative, is made to hint a preſent in general, but nothing in particular the firſt viſit, yet under a threat of diſpleaſure, and of no aſſiſtance to his buſineſs if he did not comply: Mootyram nevertheleſs denies, that he ſaid a word, or carried any meſſage to Juggut Seet the firſt viſit. Mootyram here contradicts the narrative of the Seet, which he is made in another place to acknowledge as every word true: and in the next viſit, inſtead of three laaks that was ſaid to have been aſked in his preſence by Iſmael Aly Khan, he (Mootyram) is made to increaſe the demand, and to aſk for five laaks. How conſiſtent or probable this ſtory is, I leave it to every man to judge. The ſecond queſtion propoſed to Mootyram is in theſe words in the examination the 8th, What did you ſay to Mahomed Reza Cawn about ſtopping the buſineſs of the Seets, unleſs they complied with the demand? In what words this was put, and how far ſuch a queſtion to a priſoner anſwering on his own defence, or to fix his anſwer as evidence againſt his abſent

benefactor,

benefactor, I appeal to the whole world. But what muſt every man feel within himſelf when he compares the anſwer ſet down in theſe proceedings in theſe words, "I did tell him (Mahomed "Reza Cawn) that the gentlemen would protect their buſineſs if they would make a preſent; "if not, the buſineſs of the Seets ſhould meet with no protection or countenance," as being my orders; when he underſtands that terms of expreſſion made uſe of by Mootyram, as conveying the threat, were merely Cooch-booligani: the plain tranſlation of which is, he will ſay nothing, or he will reſt ſilent, or ſay not a word; which is wreſted to expreſs a meaning ſo entirely contrary to it, viz. that the Seets buſineſs ſhall meet with no countenance or protection.—It is hard to imagine, that any body who has been for years in this country could be ſo much unacquainted with the languages as not to know this common expreſſion; how it has been tortured to make me appear guilty of raiſing threats to extort money from the Seets muſt evidently convince every enquirer with what little candour I have been uſed during the courſe of theſe examinations. Here the Committee themſelves render teſtimony of Mootyram's falſifying in this part of his evidence: but allowing that he had really uſed Cooch Sei Kurregani and Cooch-booligani, the Expreſſions will never come up to the ſenſe given it, That the buſineſs of the Seets ſhall meet with no countenance or Protection: Cooch Sei harrageni joined with Couch-booligani, ſignifies he will not exert any endeavours, and will ſay nothing; alſo it may be underſtood he will not ſtir in their affairs, or ſay any thing: it is impoſſible for me to ſay from my own knowledge, as not being preſent, what other errors, omiſſion, queſtions not underſtood by the priſoner, or anſwers miſtaken in the tranſlation, have been made; but I have good grounds to believe that had the anſwers and queſtions been put down on paper in the language Mootyram underſtood, the examination would have contained meanings and ſentences very different from what now appear put down in Engliſh; as in his evidence on the third queſtion, giving account of what paſſed between the Seets and Iſmael Aly Kawn, Mootyram contradicts what he had before ſaid: it muſt be allowed, that either what he ſaid was not perfectly underſtood, or miſconſtrued, or that Mootyram's evidence on oath was falſified the ſecond time, by his evidence on oath: after theſe contradictions in Mootyram's evidence, which I have pointed out in ſo many glaring inſtances, that any degree of credit ſhould be given to the reſt will ſcarce, I preſume, be urged before judges unbiaſſed and impartial. The proceedings of the committee wherein I was any way mentioned, after my reſigning the ſervice, were never communicated to me; the oath binding all thoſe in the Select Committee Office to the ſtricteſt ſecrecy, put it out of my power to learn what had been tranſacted there againſt me, and none of the proceedings or papers of the Committee were allowed to be peruſed by the members of the council, and only particular parts read over to them, and the papers again pocketted, and carried away. I have never been able to learn any thing certain as to the proceedings and papers that ſo deeply concerned me to have been acquainted wth, and which in common regard to juſtice, one would think I was intitled to expect ſhould have been communicated to me. It was not however till the 25th inſtant, and thro' the means of General Carnac, that I had the leaſt knowledge or acceſs to the papers of the Committe that concerned me ſo particularly, juſt at the eve of my departure, and in the hurry of ſettling my concerns, on quitting the country in ſo ſhort a ſpace; the diſadvantage I am ſubjected to in replying to and refuting the many things falſely laid to my charge, and the unjuſt concluſions thence drawn to my prejudice, in the acts of the Committee, muſt be evident to every one.

I have given reaſons for not allowing the truth of any Mahomed Reza Cawn has advanced. It muſt appear evident, that the ſame methods to which he owed his confirmation and ſafety before, by ſacrificing his honour and gratitude to ſave himſelf from the reſentment of the Committee, ſtill operating, in dictating the reply to Lord Clive's letter, in his firſt narrative, he ſays, Not that any ſum whatever was demanded either from the Nabob or himſelf by Mootyram, nor by the Gentlemen of the Deputation. In this laſt repreſentation he thinks it may be more ſatisfactory to aver this falſehood, That Mr. Johnſtone had at firſt demanded a very large ſum by Mootyram, and that his repreſentations to the Nabob were in conſequence of my deſire; though he before repreſented that the meſſage he carried was from the Deputation, and for no particular ſum; and that the firſt application he made was in conſequence of what had paſſed between him and all the gentlemen together, which conſiſted only in their deſiring him to intimate their hope to the Nabob, without preſſing any ſum; and which for fear of diſpleaſing them he conſented to do. He then ſets forth, That the Nabob deſired him to make out a liſt, and that he referred it entirely to the Nabob's own pleaſure to determine it; according to which, it was made out before his face; however, now he thinks it will ſerve his purpoſe better to allege, that the ſum and the diſtribution was ſettled by the Nabob, not by his own pleaſure, but according to my dictating. The Nabob then muſt have done ſo, either of his own pleaſure, or out of awe or fear of me; and if the latter, it is moſt evident he could not have deſired a better opportunity of gratifying his reſentment, than by complaining of me to the other gentlemen, if what he had entered for them had been by me perverted to my private uſe. Now it is very true that the Nabob did, through Mahomed Reza Cawn, make an offer of a laak to me, beſides what I received in common with the reſt; and it is moſt certain that I declined accepting this ſeparate teep, and never did receive it from Mahomed Reza Cawn, but on the contrary, ordered it to be returned to the Nabob, with my thanks for his diſtinguiſhing offer; and I call upon Meſſrs. Senior and Middleton to declare, whether, in conſequence of my having refuſed the accepting of this teep, they were not witneſſes to the Nabob's introducing the

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ſubject himſelf in the Durbar, and preſſing me in the moſt urgent manner to receive it as a mark of his favour, and whether it was not with their knowledge and approbation, that after repeated inſtances from the Nabob himſelf, made before them and ſeveral others then in the Durbar, I conſented to take it. Whether the money had been then paid, or whether this ſum was not paid to me at the ſame time with that paid to the reſt a long while afterwards; and with their knowledge; and whether the ſaid Nabob, Mahomed Reza Cawn, at that time ever gave any reaſon to think this was contrived by me, or not proceeding merely from the Nabob's own determination. The preſent the Nabob made to my brother, he himſelf in his own Durbar beſtowed upon him, the day he went to take his leave to join the army, and referred him to Mahomed Reza Cawn for payment of it; and for the payment of which the Nabob gave the repeated ſanction of his will and authority, in ſigning the furd ſual many days after, when preſented to him by Mahomed Reza Cawn, who took theſe precautions before he would iſſue any money. I never mentioned to the Nabob one ſingle word, regarding a preſent for my brother. If I had, or that this was diſagreeable to him, it lay in his own will whether to have given it, and in his power to have with-held the payment of the teep afterwards, and to have taken notice of it to the reſt of the gentlemen, had any undue influence, or contrary to his own inclination at that time, had not he a fair opportunity of repreſenting this to the other gentlemen with whom I was joined in commiſſion, and with whoſe knowledge and conſent he ſaw that all affairs were conducted? He had complained but a few days before againſt me in particular to the governor, in regard to the examining the Cutchery papers, though the deputies had firſt obtained his conſent and order for the book-keepers to attend with the books, in order to regulate the partition of the charge of the collections agreeable to the treaty: the Nabob, indeed, when afterwards convinced that he had been impoſed upon by people who had their own views to ſerve in the complaint, publicly apologized for it, and ſignified his being perfectly ſatisfied on this point, in a letter he wrote to the governor, both which appear in the book of country correſpondence; as the explaining the orders of the board, and the ſentiments of the deputation fell upon me, being more verſed in the country language than the other gentlemen, this expoſed me more than any of the reſt to the Nabob's diſpleaſure; and though throughout the whole of the negociations there was no difference in our opinions, yet the whole reſentment of whatever was ſaid or done not agreeable to the Nabob, has been directed againſt me in particular. This it is neceſſary to obſerve, in order to ſhew that had his highneſs had ſuch cauſe of complaint againſt me, as is now endeavoured to be made believed, he wanted not inſtigators enough about him to have taken the occaſion of laying ſuch a charge againſt me, either to the gentlemen of the Deputation, or to the Board below. As to Mahomed Reza Cawn's own preſents, which he would now pretend were ſolicited from him, I flatly deny; and aſſert, intimation was firſt given to us by Mootyram of his being deſirous of making us a preſent; and that ſuch were his intentions is known to others; that himſelf verbally mentioned the ſums for each; and that no note was, to my knowledge, ever offered by him rupees 4,75,000. That I appropriated a rupee, of what Mahomed Reza Cawn deſigned, or intended, or propoſed to me, or with my knowledge, for the other gentlemen, as the Committee have alledged, I declare is falſe: I never had a note from him in my poſſeſſion, nor remember ever to have ſeen one in his hands, or in thoſe of Mootyram; and that the agreeing to accept at the laſt of his preſent, long before tendered, of a laack each, was with the joint concurrence of Meſſieurs Middleton and Senior, Mahomed Reza Cawn being then preſent; and in conſequence of which; the bills were forwarded from Muxadabad, and the payments in ready money promiſed at the city for Meſſieurs Senior and Middleton, tho' Mr. Middleton, Mr. Leyceſter, and myſelf, did afterwards, for the reaſons we have before aſſigned, decline accepting of this when we had it in our power, that we might be under no reſtraint from ſuch conſideration in ſupporting our opinions; that Juggut Seet wanted to make his preſent to me alone, both Meſſieurs Senior and Middleton, to whom the circumſtances was then mentioned, may remember, and that I refuſed accepting any but in common and equal with the other gentlemen; that ſo great endeavours have been uſed, by impriſoning ſome, over-awing, and terrifying others, and by hopes and rewards beſtowed upon others in order to ſearch out and collect whatever concerned me, while no notice or ſcrutiny that appears has been made into the preſents received by many others lately and heretofore, tho' not leſs talked of, nor leſs conſiderable; whether it proceeds from thoſe motives of honour and firm attachment to the intereſt of their employers, or to gratify particular ends and reſentments, we leave to the impartial to judge.

How ready the black fellows are to curry favour, by joining in what they ſuppoſe muſt be agreeable to the will of the Committee; the ſtopping my joint trade for weeks in Burdwan, and in Suja Moeta, where our property has been twice arreſted, and is ſtill unreleaſed, to our great loſs, and their refuſing to pay me my juſt debts in other places, ſince my reſigning the ſervice, muſt evince; the merchants, even at Calcutta, after having bargained for goods at the market price, when they have learnt they were mine, have flown off their agreement.

I ſhall now make ſome remarks on the proceedings of the Committee of the 21ſt, with the other papers of the 26th inſtant.

It is very true, I have, and ever ſhall refuſe to reply to the Committee as my judges, as I eſteem the power they have taken to themſelves as uſurped and unlawful, and contrary to the ſenſe of their appointment; to themſelves I object, as having acted as parties, and trampled on

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every liberty and right, that as a Briton I had a right to expect in my trial; yet, though I reject replying at their tribunal, whose laws and bounds seem only what their will and caprice dictate, I do not decline to justify my character, where I can expect a fair and impartial hearing. In order to shew how candid are the opinions of those who would be my judges; let it be remarked that they assert, I have actually received the several sums in money and bills, specified in the general accounts of Mahomed Reza Cawn and Juggut Seet; and immediately after that, Mr. Lycester neither did nor intended to receive the bills lodged with Mootyram; now they must have known that the bills never were in my hands, or received by me more than by Mr. Lycester, and the resolution of never receiving their amount and the orders for giving them back, were taken by me jointly with that gentleman; for which I appeal to his honour, and that it was no more known to me than to him, that they had not been delivered back as Mootyram had repeatedly assured me they were; but no question that could serve to clear me in this or any other point was ever put to the prisoner or others. As to the menaces that the Committee would endeavour to make such a handle of, I do again deny ever all such, and my having authorized any such messages by Mootyram, to Mahomed Reza Cawn or Juggut Seet; yet this menace when fairly rendered in English amounts at the utmost to, I will say nothing (Cooch Booliganie). In order to lay greater load on me by a comparison with others, the Committee gave it as their opinion, that Mr. Middleton always intended to refuse the present intended him by Mahomed Reza Cawn; this Mr. Middleton is a man of too much regard to truth to pretend to, and only says, That he avoided receiving any part of this, and afterward determined refusing it, and which was much about the time Mr. Lycester and I took the same resolution; as to the reflection of our being guilty of disobedience to the Company's positive orders relative to the covenants, both in delaying the execution of them, and in receiving presents; I reply, that I was called down to council in February without desiring it, an occasional member; that it afterwards depended on the determination of others, whether I should be of the deputation or not; and that the covenants were never tendered to me; that Messieurs Sumner and Sykes have not scrupled to declare publicly, that they would not have come out, had they previously known these covenants were to have been executed, which if they chose to make use of as an argument would acquit us at least from the censure they vouchsafe now to pass upon us; covenants are free for men to bind themselves by or not, and till the party concerned agrees to enter into them of choice, are no more obligatory on him from their arrival in Bengal, than from the day they were drawn up in England, and can retrospect to the one period as little as to the other; I never refused to execute them nor opposed it being proposed in council when he proposed the question, Whether the receiving of presents were improper? Mr. Sykes by his answer condemns, as well as us, the noble lord, and all those benefitted then and since by them; the minutes of the other members of the Committee, are not direct answers to this plain general question, Whether the acceptance of all presents be improper? a question that those who had ever benefitted in that way chose rather to leave unanswered; however, we differ here in opinion from the Committee, of having thereby done any thing to the injury of our employers, or covenanted for any services dishonourable to ourselves, or hurtful to their affairs. We must submit to the common sense of mankind our proceedings in this, and the Decency, Candor, Moderation, &c. in this and other points transacted by them since they undertook their restoring of peace, order, and tranquillity; the presents received from the Nabob we still consider as received with as great propriety as any others received since the custom was introduced and setting up Meer Jaffier, and we imagine there will few be brought to believe, that the large sums received at that time by the commander in chief and his friends, while the public engagements were left undischarged, were received in that spirit of disinterestedness and concern against the sudden growth of wealth that is now preached up; the merit in receiving solely from the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan, the easy fortune then acquired, after the representations made at that very time of the state of the treasury, I shall not endeavour to detract from, but it will be something difficult to make people believe, that the sums given by this Nabob to the gentlemen in the month of April, with 26 lacks said to be lying in his house at Calcutta, besides the daily receipts after the Pania, so impoverished his treasury, and hurt the collections, that such great balances are accumulated since that time, of the money due for the army restitution or donation; and that to supply the cash under these difficulties, the honourable board should be obliged to recur to the assistance of the seats for a Loan of Rs. 150,000 at interest in the month of August; whether the government is better administered on the new System than before, facts must vouch. It no doubt rests with Lord Clive to explain his sentiments regarding the establishment of the Committee so soon after its being abolished at home, more particularly as his sentiments were thought to coincide in the salutariness of that resolution, and have been commented on in the remonstrance preferred to the Court of Directors by certain proprietors. How conformable to the intent of those powers has been the exertion and continuance of them, we shall leave every man to judge, without acknowledging that the fate or safety of Bengal, in the least depended thereon. That Lord Clive seconded the motion when it was last made, for my reinstatement, I will readily allow, if his lordship thinks, that by this concurrence, he conferred an obligation, to which in honour and gratitude he was not bound to my friends, the more my acknowlegements are due. However, I have some reason to believe this might have been

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brought about, though Lord Clive had never moved in the matter; and that had it depended ſolely on his Lordſhip's endeavours, it would never have been effected. In reply to his Lordſhip's laſt paragraph in his minutes, I do maintain, that I continued in the office of Perſian tranſlator, and was employed in writing and tranſlating the public letters, to the day the expedition embarked againſt the nabob; that from the time Mr. Scrafton commenced the correſpondence in cypher, and wrote to Mr. Walſh, that he might have again the poſt I held, and that politics and power were his game, I never was entruſted in any of the ſecret negociations then carrying on; that during that period, and long before the time when I was ordered to return and do my duty in the artillery, Mr. Luſhington, my aſſiſtant, was ſworn in, as he told me, and was employed in the affairs then tranſacting; whether Mr. Scrafton ſettled the affairs of the money or Mr. Watts with Meer Jaffier Aly Cawn, is what I ſhall not argue about. That he was acquainted with all theſe negotiations and articles, is what I ſuppoſe will not be denied by any who reads his letter, dated 31ſt May, and that from Mr. Watts; whether the preſents for the Committee was ſettled at that time, and before the army marched, I appealed in my former minute to the gentlemen of the Committee themſelves to declare; ſuch was the common opinion then prevalent; and as the truth will be beſt known to thoſe who were concerned and bound to ſecrecy, to them I appealed. I believe, however, it will appear, from the conſultations of the Select Committee, that the 30 laaks, ſtipulated for Omichund, was agreed to be left out in that treaty, by which Jaffier Aly Cawn was to be told it was intended we ſhould abide.—How this ſum was afterwards received from the Nabob, whether by virtue of his firſt ſtipulation in behalf of Omichund, or of a ſubſequent agreement, I ſhall leave it for thoſe better acquainted to ſet forth; the Committee having taken no notice of it, that I can diſcover, in the proceedings: and though they gave repeated cautions againſt making any new demands on the Nabob, beſides thoſe agreed to by his treaty; that this ſum was received, and 23 laaks divided among the Committee and others, is what I have heard; how this was divided, and whether any more was received or divided, it reſts with thoſe concerned to ſay.

His Lordſhip is pleaſed to aver, that the occaſion of his ordering me to return to my ſtation in the artillery, was a letter he received from Governor Drake, affirming he had ſeen a letter from me to Mrs. Warwick, diſcloſing to her many of the tranſactions of my office, at a very critical juncture. Now I do aver, that I had been excluded from any ſhare in the negotiations, wherein ſecrecy was required, long before I was ordered to my ſtation in the artillery, and I ſhould be extremely glad, that Governor Drake's letter was produced, that it might appear where I had divulged any ſecrets entruſted to me in my office: in regard to this letter of Governor Drake's, I think it was ſhewn to me by Colonel Clive, in the garden houſe of Mydepoor; when I no longer belonged to the office, I wrote ſuch an anſwer, as ſo unjuſt an accuſation of Governor Drake's merited, which he may, if he chooſes, produce; the tranſaction I had diſcloſed, was, to the beſt of my recollection, no other than the public news in the Camp, while the army lay in ſuſpence, and meditated ſtaying the rains at Outwa, and for which it behoved me to make proviſion, as not having been informed by Colonel Clive that I was to attend the artillery, till the very morning I embarked; I took the field entirely unprovided of every thing neceſſary in ſuch ſituation; if I appeared ſo little worthy of confidence on this account, it will ſeem odd that I ſhould be requeſted through Major Kilpatrick, to go up with the detachment ſent in purſuit of Mr. Law, in the ſame character which I declined, and was ordered up in my proper ſtation as the artillery officer; ſtill more ſo that it ſhould be recommended by the Board for his lordſhip to treat with me a few months after to go as reſident to Cuttack, for ſecret negotiations; and further that the ſame indifereet perſon ſhould be approved by his lordſhip to be diſpatched, intruſted with the conducting the negotiations in the Duan, till the army ſhould arrive, the ſucceſs of which might be of ſo great conſequence to the expedition. The ſhortneſs of my time here allows me not an opportunity of replying at large to the repreſentations Mr. Vereſt has made in his memorial; as many injurious, unjuſt, and ungenteel reflections are there diſperſed, I ſhall remark upon a few of them; reſerving myſelf to reply more at large hereafter. The method Mr. Vereſt has taken to diminiſh the balance due from the Rajah, if there be any merit in it, he may boaſt himſelf of it; rupees 41,000 advanced out of the caſh for Coolbundy, he transfers to the Company's credit, as a remittance, and which, whether it be a loan from the Company, or a balance due to them, is much the ſame, ſaving that the Company, inſtead of the Rajah, will receive the intereſt on the dudney as in 1763. This method to increaſe the remittances in appearance, we did not take the advantage of in my time; the ſum, 162:32 rupees, paid in from the 30th June to the 6th July, has, I believe, been moſt part borrowed by the Rajah at intereſt; and very little of it ariſes from the collection of the province. If the Rajah meant to reflect on my management as the cauſe of the loſſes and deficiencies, I ſhall produce a thouſand teſtimonies of his own, as well as the repeated approbation of the Board, to refute this information; and appeal to the collections and remittances during my time to ſhew how far it falls upon me. The balance of 1654134, for 1169 and 1170, will be found to be a miſtaken, and not a juſt ſtatement; it is not incumbent upon me to enter into debate with Mr. Vereſt, as to the wiſdom of the Board who adopted the method of putting the lands up to outcry before my time, and continued it ſince. As to the people who were admitted to purchaſe in 1169, none that were excepted to by the Rajah's officers, who were ſuppoſed to know them, were admitted, and as the ſame mentioned the charge of taking ſecurity from them,

it muſt reſt with them, not me, to vouch for their characters and their circumſtances. As to the ſettling the lands laſt year, as it was done after I was diſmiſſed the ſervice, it reſts not with me to anſwer for it; if better could have been done, I preſume it would not have been ommitted. It is a pleaſure to me to obſerve, that the farm of Johnſtone, Hay, and Bolts, has had a great advance bid on it, at this outcry. It is a proof the Riots there have been protected and not vexed; indeed ſeveral Bigas have been improved by new Riots that have ſettled there. Thoſe who have taken theſe farms, if allowed for only half the loſs by overflowings this ſeaſon, as we have been this laſt, will no doubt not be undeceived as to their expectations; we are ready to ſatisfy any gentleman with a ſight of our accounts, and leave them to declare, whether we have gained. The repreſentations made regarding the Bazee Zemun, ſeems dictated by the ſame ſpirit of finding fault, and to raiſe an opinion of Mr. Verelſt's own ſuperior diſcernment and ability, juſtly or unjuſtly, that ſeems out of the queſtion. The levying nine annas is charged on Mr. Johnſtone, though the ſentiment of the council at Burdwan, and the order of the board at Calcutta, to whom it was referred, the conſultation of the 4th of February, and the orders repeatedly iſſued, touching the Bazee Zemun, and ſtatements from time to time to the board, and the public regiſters kept for all the ſunnuds, brought in, &c. and thoſe confirmed, will evince how fair a repreſentation has been here given in regard to this article. It is further alledged, that it was agreed to receive two lacks leſs than the Rajah had before ſettled, for the board have aſſigned reaſons for agreeing to accept only 32 lacks in conſultation 11th February. But I ſhould be glad to know when, and with whom, ſuch ſettlement of 31 laaks was made; for I am unacquainted with any, but that for the year 1169, which was executed for 34 laaks at that time. In regard to what is ſaid about the Muttaſuddies, and their keeping us in ignorance, I think I can know the ſource from whence Mr. Verelſt has imbibed his ideas in this, as well as in many other matters, on which he was determined ſo poſitively on the inſight of a little more than a month's reſidence. If the Muttaſuddies be ſo little to be depended on, one would think the leaving every thing at their diſcretion, as muſt now be the caſe, by the recalling the factory, both in reſpect to the collections and adminiſtration of juſtice, muſt be from his having found men of a better caſt than has yet appeared in theſe diſtricts; who are meant by the Muttaſuddies, I wiſh to ſee pointed out, for in my years it is a cant word without any idea. I will venture to ſay, I never followed their advice but ſo far as it appeared on the whole the beſt, nor would acknowledge their ſuperiority ſo much, as to offer as an excuſe for any ſalutary regulations not taking place, that they oppoſed it. The Karkoon, Gocul Mozimdar, and Ramdave Nague, did uſe all their endeavours when I went firſt up, againſt making any outcry, and delivered in ſtatements of the revenues of the province, by which they computed there would be a laak deficient of the revenues collected the year before by Mr. Graham. In regard to the remarks Mr. Verelſt has made, touching the Rajah's not being acquainted with the tranſactions and affairs of his country, and without the reſpect due to his office, I cannot help admiring at it. The reſpect due to Rajah, among his own people, I aver has been ever properly kept up, and to his ſatisfaction, as I can teſtify by numberleſs letters from him, and by facts indiſputable: he was conſulted in every point of conſequence conformable to the firſt inſtructions and ſubſequent orders I received from the board. The alterations that took place on the appointment of a chief and council, were planned and preſcribed by the ſame authority, and which we did not think it our right and buſineſs to diſcuſs or diſpute; however, I will venture to contradict Mr. Verelſt, and to affirm, that he has never been kept in ignorance of any of his affairs; for the public books, and officers of his cutcheries, have ever been at his call to examine at will, and the monthly caſh accounts free to his inſpection; the ſtate of the treaſury and collections being laid before him on the ſigning of every invoice; what influence Mr. Verelſt means, other than that of a chief, I really am at a loſs to conceive, unleſs he means the Rajah ſhould be only under the influence of a writer or factor, and a member of the committee reſiding in Calcutta. As Mr. Verelſt has not ſcrupled here to miſrepreſent things, the truth of which is known to many members then of the board, ſtill in the ſervice, who were at the time preſent in Calcutta, and particularly General Carnac, who was at that time here, and acquainted with every circumſtance that paſſed, I appeal to him, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Watts, Mr. Marriott, and Mr. Graham, then ſecretary to the board, how conformable to truth is the information of that gentleman; and to Mr. Vanſittart, then preſident; and to Mr. Batſon, who at that time compoſed the board; as Mr. Graham, in particular, was then deputed from the board with a meſſage to the Rajah, to inform him, that if he had any grievances to repreſent, that he ſhoeld lay them before the board through the channel of the chief; I beg that gentleman, and General Carnac, may be deſired to declare what they know of this matter; and I appeal to Mr. Vanſittart, to whom the Rajah addreſſed himſelf, whether before I returned, I did not wait upon him at the gardens, and require of him to demand of the Rajah, then preſent, to ſet forth, face to face, any cauſe or complaint he then had againſt me. The Preſident replied, that had he had any, he would, without doubt, have committed it to paper, and laid it before the board. That the Rajah's ſervants were ſeized coming into Calcutta, is more than ever I heard; and if it were true, as I am perſuaded it is not, the greater opening did it afford the Rajah to have ſet forth his complaints when encouraged thereto by the meſſage from the board; the Rajah wanted not opportunity when my influence was at end by my diſ-

miſſion

miſſion laſt year, had he cauſe but to be ſatisfied with my behaviour to him in every reſpect, but of his thankfulneſs and dependance on me, as his benefactor, I have ſo many proofs to ſhew, that I am perſuaded nothing of this kind ever fairly could proceed from himſelf. The merit of the Rajah's ready compliance to whatever Mr. Verelſt aſks of him, is, no doubt, very great. Has he, or any black man in the country, now either reſolution or power left to diſpute any thing ſaid or done under ſuch authority? For to whom can he appeal after the repeated examples given them? What have they now to expect but guards and impriſonment to work them to compliance to every thing deſired by the Committee. The lateneſs of my receiving the papers has prevented me from laying this repreſentation before the board; I hope it will nevertheleſs be thought but juſt it ſhould be allowed to go home by this packet, that my reply, ſo far as yet prepared, may be heard by the Honourable Court, at the ſame time they read the proceedings ſent home againſt me.

I am, with reſpect,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
JOHN JOHNSTONE.

Oct. 1ſt, 1765.

Fort William, the 7th October 1765.

Tranſlation of a Copy of a Letter from the Seats to Mr. Johnſtone, after his Return to Calcutta, May 1765.

At this happy time, the welcome news of your ſafe arrival in Calcutta, which I was impatiently expecting, gave me the greateſt joy, and all manner of comfort. May the Almighty proſper to all your well-wiſhers the joy of your arrival; and may he always keep you under his ſhadow, and preſerve you, the Accompliſher of the wiſhes of your dependants. I regard you as my true benefactor and maſter, and always hope for proſperity through your favour. I requeſt that you will look upon me as one united to the Company, and ever regard me with an eye of friendſhip till I have the happineſs to ſee you; which, if God willing, I ſhall ſpeedily obtain. Conſtantly remember me with your friendly letters and commands.

A true tranſlation.
GEORGE VAN SITTART,
Perſian Tranſlator.

Tranſlation of a Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, to Mr, Johnſtone, in Calcutta, May 1765.

Mizra Mahomed Cauzim, who is a man of underſtanding, and a relation, and a faithful friend of mine, I have ſent along with his excellency; he will have the happineſs of waiting on you. I hope from your friendſhip, that whatſoever he repreſents to you concerning my affairs, you will conſider, and heartily favour me in,

A true tranſlation.
GEORGE VAN SITTART,
Perſian tranſlator.

Tranſlation of a Copy of a Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn, to Mr. Johnſtone, after his Arrival in Calcutta, May 1765.

I have already had the honour of writing to you; you muſt have received my letter. On the 17th of Zecada, his excellency ſet out for Calcutta. The ſtate of affairs here I have before written you. I hope from your friendſhip that you will intereſt yourſelf in my behalf. I have been raiſed by you and the gentlemen of council, and have no other protector.

A true tranſlation.
GEORGE VAN SITTART,
Perſian Tranſlator.

Tranſlation of a Copy of a Letter from Rajah Mootyram, accompanying that from Mahomed Reza Cawn.

From the time of my taking my leave of you, upon your departure for Callcutta, I have attended the Nabob Maen ul Dowlah Behadre, agreeably to your commands; accordingly I have

have been favoured with a Sunnud for Hoogly, and orders have been iſſued, for the confirmation of the title of Rajah, which was beſtowed upon me by Aſuf jau Nizam ul Dowla Behadre, and a new ſeat has been granted to me; my Nayb is arrived at Hoogly, and is put in poſſeſſion of the buſineſs; but I have not yet received a Kellaat, and taken my leave. The Nabob told me, I will get his excellency to honour you with a Kellaat, and give you your diſmiſſion to day, or tomorrow; in the interim, we received news of the arrival of the Nabob Sabut Jung Bahadre, in Calcutta; his excellency immediately determined to go to Calcutta. Mr. Middleton adviſed him againſt it, in the ſtrongeſt manner, and told him it was not proper he ſhould go without the gentlemen of council's pleaſure; but he would not liſten to him, he has fixed his departure on Tueſday.—The Nabob Maund ul Dowla wanted to accompany his excellency, but his excellency has declined taking him, under pretence that if he was to go, the buſineſs of the Nizamut would be interrupted; I alſo, as I have not yet received my Kellaat, nor taken my leave, attend upon the Nabob, who calling me to him, ſaid to me, "I am writing to Iftacar "ul Doula, do you alſo ſend an Arzee to him, and repreſent to them, that without any deſiring "in the gentlemen favoured me and honoured me, with the poſt of Naib." Now I remain here, and his excellency is going to Calcutta, and all my enemies are with him. I have no protector but Afticar ul Dowla, my honour depends upon him as he is in Calcutta; it is a matter of indifference, whether I go or not; let him ſhew me ſuch favour that my enemies may not find occaſion againſt me; it is he that has honoured me with the appointment to this office, let him be kind enough to ſupport me in it; if I ſhould be now diſgraced, I will put an end to my life; if permiſſion is granted me, I will come for a couple of days to Calcutta, and be introduced by the gentlemen to Sabut Jung Bahadre, and then return with all ſpeed to Moorſhedabad, and employ myſelf with diligence in carrying on the buſineſs to which the gentlemen of council have been kind enough to appoint me. The Nabob has written you a letter and waits your anſwer—whatſoever you may be pleaſed to order, he will act accordingly.—He wants to ſend me to you, be pleaſed to acquaint me with your pleaſure on this ſubject—Mr. Middleton alſo will ſet out from hence on Wedneſday, and ſo will Mr. Senior in two or three days; the friends of Nundcomar rejoice at Sabut Jung's arrival, and ſay, that the Mharaja will obtain a Kellaat, and return to Moorſhedabad in four or five days; his excellency's inclination alſo is not unknown to you. I am at your command, and will act agreeably to whatſoever you may be pleaſed to order.

A true Tranſlation.
GEORGE VAN SITTART,
Perſian Tranſlator.

Tranſlation of a Copy of a Letter from Mahomed Reza Cawn to Mr. Johnſtone in Calcutta, received May 1765.

His excellency, upon hearing of the arrival of the Nabob Sabut Jung Bahadre, has determined to go to Calcutta. The 15th of Zecada, at night, Mr. Middleton came to the Kella, and repreſented to his excellency in the ſtrongeſt terms, that he ſhould not go to Calcutta without the approbation of the gentlemen of council; but it was all to no purpoſe; his excellency himſelf goes there, and I remain here: all the world knows that the gentlemen of council appointed me to this buſineſs entirely of their own favour, without my deſiring.—The Preſervation of my honour depends upon the gentlemen; on this ſubject I have written a Letter to Mr. Spencer. I hope, that from your matchleſs friendſhip, that you will ſhew me your favour in whatſoever may be adviſable.

P. S. Whereas his excellency is going to Calcutta; all my enemies are with him, and they will, doubtleſs, not be dilatory in doing me all the prejudice they can: I have no protector but you. Although when abſent you ſhew me your favour, yet, as I am impatient to ſee you, and it is very neceſſary I ſhould wait upon the Nabob, Sabut Jung Behadre, it is my deſire to leave a truſt worthy man, who is acquainted with buſineſs, to carry on the affairs here, and repair myſelf immediately to Calcutta, to have the happineſs of waiting on the Nabob, Sabut Jung Behadre, and then I will return hither; I expect your orders on this ſubject, and wait your anſwer with impatience.

P. S. Other matters you will be informed of by the Letter of Rajah Mootyram.

A true Tranſlation.
GEORGE VAN SITTART.
Perſian Tranſlator.

THIRD

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

APPOINTED BY THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ASSEMBLED AT WESTMINSTER IN THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN,

TO ENQUIRE INTO THE

NATURE, STATE AND CONDITION,

OF THE

EAST-INDIA COMPANY,

AND OF THE

BRITISH AFFAIRS IN THE EAST-INDIES.

LONDON:

Sold by T. Evans, at No. 54, Paternoster-Row; and W. Davis, the Corner of Sackville-Street, Piccadilly.

THIRD

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE, &c.

The Committee appointed to enquire into the Nature, State, and Condition of the Eaſt-India Company, and of the Britiſh Affairs in the Eaſt-Indies,

HAVING ſtated, in a ſchedule in a former Report, a ſum of five lacks of rupees received by Lord Clive, from the Begum or mother of Nudjum ul Dowlah, in the year 1766, and having engaged, in the ſame Report, to complete and lay before the Houſe their enquiries concerning that tranſaction; they proceeded accordingly; and, conſidering the nature of the ſubject, they think the beſt means to enable the Houſe to judge accurately thereupon, will be to lay before them the whole of the evidence, as it ſtands upon their proceedings.

The firſt evidence your Committee have to lay before the Houſe, on this head, is that of Francis Sykes, Eſquire, and General Carnac, whoſe examinations were taken on a former occaſion; and are as follow;

Francis Sykes, Eſquire,

Was you preſent with Lord Clive and General Carnac, the 8th of April 1766, at any viſit paid to the mother of Nudjum ul Dowlah?

I was there upon a viſit with Lord Clive: cannot recollect whether General Carnac was there or not—there was a third perſon.

What paſſed there?

After the uſual compliments, the mother preſented to his Lordſhip a teep, for the ſum of, I think, five lacks of rupees, declaring at the ſame time, that ſhe had reſerved it for his Lordſhip's own uſe, by the particular requeſt of Myr Jaffier before his deceaſe, and that the Nabob had intended to have preſented it himſelf, in caſe he had ſurvived till his Lordſhip's arrival.

Did you ſpeak the language ſufficient to underſtand all that was ſaid?

I did, and was the perſon myſelf that interpreted; there was another perſon preſent who underſtood Engliſh as well as Perſian, his name was Nobekiſſen.

Are you perfect in the language of the country?

I do not underſtand the language of the country perfectly.

When you tranſacted buſineſs of your own, did you generally uſe an interpreter, or did you interpret for yourſelf?

In all tranſactions with the Nabob and the government's officers, either with reſpect to the Company or myſelf, I never made uſe of any interpreter.

When was the firſt information you had of the legacy?

I heard it mentioned, but by whom I cannot tell, upon our arrival in the river; it was merely rumour.

Do you recollect any perſon who told you ſo?

I do not.

When was the firſt time you ever heard of the legacy from a man of credit?

I do not recollect to have had any converſation with any perſon about it.

Did you underſtand, before you had waited on the mother, that you was to receive this money?

I did not know the nature of the buſineſs on which we waited upon the mother, but waited on her as a mere matter of compliment.

Did Lord Clive refuſe it at firſt, when the mother offered it?

He did not.—At the viſit to the Begum, where I mentioned Lord Clive's accepting the teep from her, or his Lordſhip's receiving it, he mentioned to me, or ſoon afterwards, his intention to appropriate it to the inſtitution of a military fund for relief of diſtreſſed officers and ſoldiers in the Eaſt-India Company's ſervice, which he afterwards fulfilled.

Your Committee then called General Carnac, whoſe examination was as follows:

Was you preſent at the viſit with Lord Clive and Mr. Sykes, to the Begum, in April 1766?

I am pretty certain I was not; I do not recollect that I was ever with her.

Was you with Lord Clive, at the city, at that time?

I went up with him.

When did you firſt hear of the legacy which was left to Lord Clive by Myr Jaffier?

I was a great way up the country, and it was probably a conſiderable time after.

Do you remember any man of credit in the country, who ever mentioned this legacy to you?

I do not particularly remember any perſons, but imagine many muſt have mentioned it to me?

Your Committee then read the following papers, copies of which are hereunto annexed, No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

A Letter from Lord Clive to Mr. Sumner and council, 8th April 1766.

Minute on conſultations, 14 April, 1766, with the opinion of the board, and letter in anſwer to Lord Clive.

Paragraph 108 and 109 of letter from the preſident and council of Fort William, 28th November 1766.

General conſultations, 11 December 1766.

Do ——— 28 January 1767.

Letter from Nudjum ul Dowlah to Lord Clive, received 9 June 1765.

Then Governor Johnſtone produced to your Committee, a letter, ſtated to be an original letter from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah to Nundcomar: two tranſlations of which are hereunto annexed, the one liberal, No. 12, the other literal, No. 13.

Then your Committee examined Goreſhamdaſs, who was formerly moonſhee, or Perſian tranſlator to Colonel Graham, and his examination was as follows:

Have you ever ſeen the ſeal of the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah?

I can't ſay.

Do you know the hand-writing of Nundcomar?

I think I do, and that the letter is endorſed by Nundcomar in the Perſian language, importing "The anſwer is written."

There are alſo certain Perſic words, importing, "Received the 3d of the Month of the Zeear, in the 7th year," which I ſuppoſe to have been written by the Moonſhee of Nundcomar.—There was 6 or 7 days between the date of the letter and the receipt.—My reaſon for ſaying 6 or 7 is, becauſe there is a difference in the number of days in months, according to their computation.—The letter is marked with a ſeal, containing the name of Nudjum ul Dowlah.

What is the ſignature or mark at the bottom of the letter?

There is a mark ſignifying, "Stop here," which is the uſual way of finiſhing a letter among the great people of that country;—that word is not written in the ſame hand as the letter.——The words, "Stop here," are always wrote by the principal;—the body of the letter by his Moonſhee.

Have you any reaſon to believe that that mark was written by the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah?

Only this: the uſual cuſtom of the country is, that when the letter is written by the Secretary, the principal perſon puts this mark; and if this letter is from Nudjum ul Dowlah I ſuppoſe that mark might be written by him.

Your Committee then called Captain Swinton, whoſe examination was as follows:

Are you acquainted with the hand-writing of Nundcomar?

I have often ſeen the hand-writing of Nundcomar, but cannot from memory take upon me to ſay what is and what is not his hand-writing.—On comparing his writing with any other I believe I could form a Judgement.

When you was ſecretary to General Carnac, had you any correſpondence with Nudjum ul Dowlah?

I have.—I have received letters from him.

Is the ſeal upon the cover now preſented to you ſimilar to thoſe ſeals from the Nabob which you received in the courſe of that correſpondence?

Nudjum ul Dowlah's name is upon this ſeal.—I cannot poſitively ſay, without having another to compare, whether it is exactly ſimilar.

Do you believe it to be the ſeal of Nudjum ul Dowlah?

I cannot decide upon that.—I cannot form an opinion without comparing it with others of his ſeals, of which I have ſeveral.—At the ſame time I muſt obſerve, that there is nothing more eaſy than to counterfeit thoſe ſeals, and that it is frequently practiſed in that country to put falſe letters, under the covers of other people.

Are

Are you acquainted with the hand-writing of Nudjum's Moonſhy?

I am not.

Had the letters you received from Nudjum ul Dowlah a mark at the concluſion, ſimilar to that upon the letter now preſented to you?

I rather think not.—I have ſometimes received letters from great perſons with a ſignature at the bottom, but many more without any, as it is not an uſual thing but upon particular occaſions.

As you ſaid you received letters from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, did you ever receive one with a mark?

I have already ſaid that I rather think not.

If a perſon was to write a letter and put the mark before explained, would it be conſidered as a forgery?

If he copied the Nabob's own mark it would certainly be a forgery.

Is forgery a capital crime in India?

I don't know the law on that ſubject, but I never knew any one capitally puniſhed for it.

Do you believe this letter, upon viewing it with all its circumſtances, to be a genuine letter from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah to Nundcomar?

I have ſome doubts about it, but wiſh to conſider it more at leiſure before I give an opinion.—I think it unlikely that the Nabob ſhould write to Nundcomar in the ſtile he does concerning Nobekiſſen, as giving him information, which I ſhould ſuppoſe he was well acquainted with before, Nobekiſſen having been long in Nundcomar's ſervice.

Was Nobekiſſen made a Rajah?

I have heard ſo, and believe he was.

Mr. Goreſhamdaſs was again called, and aſked,

What is the puniſhment for forgery in India?

The right hand to be cut off.

Do you know of any inſtance of a hand being cut off for that offence?

No.—I have heard of ſuch puniſhment being inflicted for that crime.

Your Committee then read the following papers, copies of which are hereunto annexed, No. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20.

The deed between Lord Clive and the Company, with the regulations.

Muxadabad conſultations, 17th December 1770: the Begam's letter of complaint againſt Mahomed Reza Cawn.

Ditto 3d January 1771; anſwer to ditto.

Par. 33. of Lord Clive's letter to the Committee of correſpondence, 28th Auguſt 1767.

Letter from ditto to the Court of Directors, 16th January 1768.

The opinion of Sir Fletcher Norton, relating to the legacy from the Begam.

Par. 136 and 137 of letter from the Court of Director's to Bengal, dated 16th March 1768.

State of military fund.

Captain Swinton having had the letter produced by Governor Johnſtone, ſome days in his poſſeſſion, in order to compare it with others in the poſſeſſion of Lord Clive and General Carnac, and being again examined with regard to the ſaid letter from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah to Nundcomar, was aſked,

Have you examined the letter in Perſia delivered to you, with other Perſian letters from Nudjum ul Dowlah, ſaid to have been in your poſſeſſion?

I have compared it with four letters from Nudjum ul Dowlah—Two of which I find are ſealed with his father's title of Suja al Moolck, which was conferred upon him by the King, after his father's death—the other two with ſeals exactly ſimilar to that delivered to me by the Committee: All theſe letters are to General Carnac—I have not been able to find any to myſelf from Nudjum ul Dowlah—I have examined 50 letters received by Lord Clive in the courſe of a month from the King, Sujah Dowlah, Mynyr o Dowlah, Syffa Dowlah, Mahomed Reza Cawn, and others.—I found only three of theſe that had any ſignature to them, viz. one from the King with a mark called Byze—One from Syffa Dowlah, marked Vuſſalaam, which means "Farewell"—according to Meninſki, it alſo means *ne plus ultra*—and one from Sujah ul Dowlah, with the mark of El Hawk, which means *Stop*.

After having had time to examine the letter delivered to you, and comparing it with others, do you believe it to be an original letter from Nudjum ul Dowlah to Nundcomar?

I believe the cover to be ſealed with one of Nudjum ul Dowlah's ſeals—the writing of the body of the letter is very ſimilar to ſome of thoſe others now produced from him, as is likewiſe the mark at the end.—Of the 50 letters which I examined, 6 of them were dated on the outſide of the cover; the date of the receipt was written in Engliſh on all of them, and in Perſian on 21 of them—none of them were dated in the letter itſelf—6 of them were not addreſſed, perhaps owing to their having been ſent in bags, and 4 of them had no cover.—All thoſe from Nudjum ul Dowlah (that I have found) to General Carnac, are dated and ſigned with the above-mentioned mark of El Hawk—there were none from him in the 50.—In another bundle I found ſeveral from Suffal Dowlah to Lord Clive, all or moſt of which were marked with the word Verſſalaam, and dated—in the ſame bundle there was one from Syfa al Dowlah to General Carnac, ſigned with the ſame mark as Nudjum ul Dowlah's letters.

With

With reſpect to the two tranſlations, the reading of the Perſic is a matter of difficulty with me; I therefore only attended to the particular paragraph, which, on the Moonſhee's reading the letter, ſtruck me at the laſt meeting to be ſomewhat different from his tranſlation, and my opinion was confirmed by the tranſlation afterwards produced.—I have now examined that paragraph more particularly, and given what I think a literal tranſlation of it—as to the reſt of the letter, I don't find any material difference between the original and the tranſlation: the paragraph referred to is literally, in my opinion, as followeth; "At laſt, accor- "ding to diſpoſitions (or arrangements) a note of five laak of rupees, under the ſeal of the "Begum, was given, which, with the utmoſt difficulty and pains they took." In the tranſlation by Goreſhamdaſs, the ſame paragraph is tranſlated as follows: "At laſt they took a "note of 5 lack of rupees in jewels, gold mohurs, and rupees, under the ſeal of the ſaid "Begum, which, after many proteſts, was given to them, and they received it after many "excuſes."

Is the mark at the end of the letter, produced by Governor Johnſtone, peculiar to the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, or is it uſed by other people?

I thought it was peculiar to him till I examined ſome letters, from whence I found, that it was uſed by others, as above-mentioned.

Three papers ſtated to be the original certificates, of which copies were read before, were produced by Mr. Strachey; and likewiſe atteſted tranſlations of the ſame.

Your Committee then examined Henry Strachey, Eſquire, as follows:

Was it uſual for Lord Clive to deliver other originals to you, of which the tranſlations were left in the office?

Lord Clive's moonſhy has frequently delivered to my care, Perſic letters, after the tranſlations had been entered on the public books.

Were thoſe letters reſpecting the buſineſs of the Company?

I could not read the Perſian language, nor to my memory did I ever read a tranſlation of any of them.

What knowledge have you of the tranſlates being entered on the Company's books?

No other than that it was cuſtomary, and that it is the office of the Perſian tranſlator ſo to do.

Do you believe that the letters in general were delivered to you?

I believe they might have been, but I cannot anſwer for the accuracy of buſineſs in a Perſian tranſlator.

Do you think that, except from the inaccuracy of the Perſian tranſlator, they were all delivered to you?

Perhaps they were.

Memorandum. [Mr. Strachey, added the following, about an hour after his evidence was given, but before the Committee adjourned.

But I recollect that many of the letters of the country correſpondence were ſtolen at Chuprah.

Memorandum. On book of country correſpondence 1765, read as follows, viz. The above 58 letters are all the country correſpondence which ever came to my hands, beſides thoſe beginning May 5th. A. No. 1. and proceeding regularly till December 1766.—The remaining Letters and anſwers to them were, to the beſt of my knowledge, loſt at Chuprah, by a robbery, there committed upon the munſhies, in whoſe cuſtody they then were.

December 16, 1766. ROB. MADDISON, Perſian Tranſlator.

Where was Lord Clive when the Nabob, the Begam, and Nundcomar gave him theſe certificates?

I can't tell—I ſuppoſe at Muxadabad.—I don't recollect when or where they were delivered to me, but they were all delivered at the ſame time.

Were they delivered to be kept as evidence of Lord Clive's title to the 5 laaks.

They were delivered to me to take care of.—I do not recollect that any particular purpoſe was mentioned.—I knew at the time that they were certificates relative to the five laaks.

Who informed you ſo?

I don't recollect whether I was informed ſo by Lord Clive, or the Perſian tranſlator.

Goreſhamdaſs being again examined, was aſked the following queſtions:

Was the mother of Nudjum ul Dowlah ever married to Myr Jaffier?

I believe not.

Was it ſo underſtood in general?

Yes.

If a man is married in that country, and leaves a wife and children, to whom does his property go at his deceaſe?

To his lawful wife; and after her death to the children; the ſons taking certain proportions, and the daughters inferior ones; but ſons and daughters equally amongſt themſelves. When they have neither wife, nor children, they may give their property by will; in the contrary caſe they cannot.

Do you mean Gentoos or Mahometans?

In the caſe of Mahometans, the above rule prevails—in the caſe of Gentoos, it goes only to the ſons: neither can a man leave his effects from a brother, or ſiſter, or other lawful heir.

Does

Does this rule hold good with the Nabobs?

I believe it does, but it depends on their power.

Henry Strachey, Eſquire, was then aſked,

Were theſe tranſlations the firſt that were made?

I believe not.

Your Committee then again called Captain Swinton, who was aſked the following queſtions.

On comparing the mark of the certificate from the Nabob with the mark to the letter produced by Governor Johnſtone, do you think that both marks are written by the ſame hand?

I do not think they were, neither do I think it like the marks to the letters.

As the marks are not made by the ſame perſon, do you think either of them were made by the Nabob?

As I never ſaw the Nabob write, I cannot ſay whether either of theſe or any of the others were actually his own hand writing.

What is the ſcroll at the top of the Nabob's certificate?

It ſeems to be Munzureſt, but it is very ill wrote:—It ſignifies in Engliſh, "it is acknowledged or agreed to."

Do you ſuppoſe that was written by a Moonſhy, or by the Nabob?

It does not ſeem to have been written by a Moonſhy, whoſe profeſſion is writing, becauſe it is ſo very ill wrote.

Does the certificate appear to you as authentically the Nabob's as any other letter you have ever ſeen of his?

It is ſealed with one of the ſeals uſed by the Nabob, with the title of Sujah ul Moolk; but it is impoſſible for me to declare any of thoſe Perſic papers to be actually the deed of the Nabob.

Do you think that the writing of any of the letters now compared is ſimilar to the writing of the certificate?

I cannot decide poſitively, I rather think them to be different.

How many Moonſhys had the Nabob?

Several.

Goreſhamdaſs being again examined, was aſked the following queſtions,

Is the mark at the bottom of the letter, produced by Mr. Johnſtone, like the mark at the bottom of the Nabob's certificate?

No,—they are very different, and ſo is the writing from all the letters I have ſeen here.

What is the ſcroll at the ſide of the Nabob's certificate?

It is Munzuras, and means "it is granted," but it is written I believe juſt as a perſon writes at the time of his death, and is not able to write properly; or a perſon trembling and going into fits, and cannot hold the pen properly; or like a boy of 4 or 5 years of age, who does not know how to write;—it is written with a broken pen, that was mended for every ſtroke.

Do you think it is the hand-writing of the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah?

By thoſe marks I have ſeen on Mr. Swinton's letters, and the letter produced by Governor Johnſtone, it appears quite different;—there is no ſimilitude at all.

Is it not poſſible that the mark to the certificate may be the Nabob's own writing, and the marks to the letters put by the Moonſhees?

It is not uſual for the Moonſhy to write both the letter and the mark, that being always put by the principal perſon.

Are the ſcroll at the ſide, and the mark at the end, written by the ſame hand?

I ſuppoſe he muſt have made another pen, if they were written by the ſame perſon.

Are the certificates of Meny Begum and the Nabob wrote by the ſame perſon?

I believe they are.

Captain Swinton being aſked the ſame queſtion, ſaid,

I think them extremely different.

Your Committee then examined the Right honourable Lord Clive, who delivered in a paper in the following words, and alſo the depoſition of Mr. Simeon Droz, copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 21.

"A few days after my arrival at Calcutta, in May 1765, the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla "came down from Muxadabad to viſit me: that every day, or the day after, we rode out "together in an open chaiſe; and Nobekiſſen, who ſpoke Engliſh, and was the interpreter, "rode behind.—The Nabob took that opportunity to inform me that his father had left me "5 lack of rupees, which he ſaid were in Jewels, Gold, Mohurs, and Silver, and that the "whole was in the hands of his mother the Begum, who would pay it whenever I pleaſed. "I mentioned this circumſtance to ſeveral gentlemen very ſoon after, particularly to Mr. "Strachey and Mr. Verelſt. At that time I reſolved in my own mind not to accept the "legacy; but afterwards, when, in obedience to the company's commands, we had ordered "the double batta of the army to be ſtruck off, it occurred to me, that that legacy might "be converted into a military fund for the benefit of invalid officers and ſoldiers, and "widows:—upon that principal I demanded payment of the legacy in April 1766. At firſt "I thought of confining this fund to the benefit of the army in Bengal only, but wiſhing

" to have it extended to all the Company's other ſettlements, and thinking the 5 lack in-
" ſufficient, I applied to the Nabob Syf ul Dowlah to add 3 lacks more, to which he rea-
" dily conſented, upon my explaining to him the purpoſe to which the money was to be
" applied."

At what time did your Lordſhip receive the Perſian certificates produced by Mr. Strachey?

I cannot be certain, but I think in the Month of April 1766.

Did you receive them all at the ſame time?

I imagine ſo, but don't know: I imagine it muſt have been at Muxadabad that I received them.

Were the certificates taken by your direction?

As I learnt by word of mouth from the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowlah, that ſuch a legacy had been left me by his father, I deſired a particular account of the manner in which that legacy was left me might be given in writing by thoſe perſons who were preſent upon the occaſion: I cannot recollect who I employed on this occaſion, but in all probability it was Nobekiſſen.

Who wrote the Engliſh words on the certificates?

I don't know.

Henry Strachey, Eſq; being aſked the ſame queſtion, ſaid,

I believe them to be in Mr. Maddiſon's hand-writing.

Lord Clive being again examined, was aſked,

Had your Lordſhip any tranſlation made at the time?

I can't recollect.

Why did not you lay the tranſlations before the board till January 1767?

Becauſe I did not think it neceſſary, until I had formed a plan for the diſpoſition of the money in a military fund.

Is it cuſtomary in Indoſtan to grant certificates, without dates of the time of their being granted?

I believe it is very cuſtomary to write letters, and of courſe certificates, without dates.

In letters is not the date generally marked on the outſide of the cover?

I am not acquainted with the Perſic language, and do not know whether they are or not.

When the Nabob acquainted you of the legacy which his father had left you in 1765, when in the chaiſe as above ſtated, did you tell him that you was reſolved not to accept it?

I did not give him any poſitive anſwer; but imagine that I rather ſeemed to decline it.

Was the affidavit of Mr. Droz taken at your deſire?

Yes.

What were the foundations of your ſcruples againſt receiving the legacy in the firſt inſtance?

Becauſe I had promiſed to the Court of Directors and Proprietors, that I would not benefit myſelf, directly or indirectly, in the value of one ſhilling by my government in India.

Did you ever hear of a perſon making a will in that country?

I have heard from other Engliſh gentlemen, that they do make wills in that country.

Did you ever ſee a certificate in India without a date?

I do not recollect ever to have ſeen any others than theſe.

Mr. Goreſhamdaſs being again examined, was aſked,

Do you know what is meant by a will?

Yes—I mean a diſpoſal of things according to a perſon's own choice, to take place after the death of the perſon making that diſpoſal.

Do you know any inſtance of a will ſo made?

Yes—my uncle on my mother's ſide, before the time of his death, but when he was in his right ſenſes, made a will to diſpoſe of every thing to my mother after the time of his death.

Then Lord Clive was aſked the following queſtion:

Was the covenant, making the legacy of five lacks of rupees, a collateral ſecurity for the payment of your Jaghire, in caſe you ſhould be evicted of that Jaghire of no value?

It will be time enough to anſwer that queſtion when the money is received, and diſpoſed of by me.

Your Committee then examined William Bolts, Eſq; who was aſked the following queſtion:

What is the letter in your hand?

It is a letter which I received from Nudjum ul Dowlah, in February 1765. I waited on the Nabob with the letter, and he avowed it to be his.

Mr. Goreſhamdaſs being ſhewed the letter produced by Mr. Johnſtone, and that produced by Mr. Bolts, was aſked,

Are the marks at the bottom of them the ſame?

Yes.

Did you ever know any certificate without a date?

I never ſaw any one certificate without a date, but the three produced by Mr. Strachey;

nor

nor without the ſeal of the Cazee, and the atteſtation of two witneſſes. In places where there is no Cazee, there is an aſſembly of people, and they teſtify.

Did you ever ſee any other certificates?

Yes.

What ſort of papers are thoſe atteſted with the Cazee's ſeal, and two witneſſes?

Certificates, wills and bonds, and grants, and of the ſort of certificates now produced.

Did you ever ſee any certificate of that ſort?

I have ſeen certificates of that nature, but not without ſignatures of witneſſes, ſeals, and dates.

Did you ever ſee any certificates from Nabobs?

No.

Did you ever hear of Mahometans making wills?

Yes.

Did you ever know of a verbal will, with regard to money, being made, and carried into execution?

I never heard of one being made.

Twenty certificates under the Cazee's ſeal, of the prices of goods at different places, were produced and proved by Mr. Swinton, Goreſhamdaſs, and Mr. Bolts, to be dated and witneſſed.

Then William Bolts, Eſquire, was again examined.

Did you ever know a certificate in Bengal, that was not dated?

I never did, and according to the cuſtoms of Indoſtan ſhould have deemed ſuch a declaration invalid.

Have you any certificates under the hand of the Nabob?

Yes—I have perwannahs under the hand of the Nabob, Sujah ul Dowlah, which are ſigned, ſealed, and dated—a receipt from the King, which is dated and ſealed—a bond from Sujah Dowlah, which is dated and ſealed—perwannahs under the hands of Mr. Verelſt and Mr. Cartier, which are dated, ſigned, and ſealed, and various duſtucks and paſſes, which are all ſigned, ſealed, and dated; which I now produce.

The papers being produced, the ſeals and dates were confirmed by Mr. Swinton and Goreſhamdaſs.

And Mr. Bolts being further examined, was aſked,

What is the purport of theſe perwannahs from Sujah Dowlah, now produced?

They relate to the trade in ſalt petre.—The bond from Sujah Dowlah is for money and goods, which I furniſhed him in his diſtreſs—the receipt from the King is from him to Mr. Rafael, for duties paid at Illahabad.

Then Goreſhamdaſs was aſked,

Do you think Nundcomar would come to England?

Without force he can't come, becauſe it is contrary to the laws of his religion, he being a Bramin—it is contrary to the religion of the Hindoos to come to England—the conſequence would be loſing their caſt; but by paying money and doing penance at their return, they would regain it.—I am a Hindoo.

Is a Hindoo deemed infamous by quitting his country?

It is contrary to the law, but he recovers himſelf by penalty and penance.

Did you ever know any inſtance of Hindoos, who loſt their caſt by going upon the ſea, who afterwards regained it?

I never heard of a Hindoo going upon the ſea out of my country, but from the coaſt of Malabar they go very frequently, and are not affected by it.

Do they go long voyages?

I don't know, but they go upon the ſea.

Does any but the ſailor caſt go?

Yes—ſome others—I don't know what, for I never was in that country.

Then Henry Strachey, Eſquire produced to your Committee an original certificate or declaration ſealed by Sujah Dowlah, in the ſame manner as the certificates relating to the Nabob's legacy to Lord Clive, and the ſeal proved by General Carnac.

It having been obſerved, that Mr. Droz's certificate is not ſigned by him, Mr. Strachey produced the original letter from Mr. Droz to Lord Clive, in which the ſaid certificate came incloſed to Lord Clive, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, No. 22.

And Governor Johnſon being examined, was aſked the following queſtion,

How came you by the letter from Nudjum ul Dowlah to Nundcomar, produced by you?

The letter was delivered to me by a gentleman who was in Bengal at the time thoſe tranſactions happened, and he told me he received it from Nundcomar himſelf, ſoon after it was wrote, and he ſhewed me, at the ſame time, a tranſlation of the letter by Mr. George Vanſittart, whoſe hand-writing I know, and permitted me to take a copy of that tranſlation, which is the liberal tranſlation I produced to the Committee; but the gentleman, unwilling to involve himſelf in any diſputes, took my promiſe that his name ſhould not be mentioned to the Committee, which I before related on producing the letter.—The reaſon why he would not give me the original tranſlation was, becauſe it was endorſed by ſome perſons, whoſe hand-writing might be known.—The letter muſt ſtand upon the evidence

that

that is produced to authenticate it as an original.—I readily delivered it, in the preſence of the Committee, to Mr. Swinton, General Carnac's Perſian tranſlator, to compare it with all the correſpondence of Nudjum ul Dowlah with Lord Clive, General Carnac, and himſelf; and alſo to compare the indorſement, by Nundcomar, with his correſpondence.—The evidence of Mr. Swinton, after having had it two days in his poſſeſſion and compared it, will ſhew what reliance may be had on it as an original.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

Fort William General Conſultations, 14th April, 1766.

LETTER from the Right Honourable Lord Clive, dated the 8th inſtant, at Mootejil, read, ſignifying to us his intention of appropriating a legacy of five lacks of rupees, bequeathed to him by the late Nabob Meer Jaffier, as a fund for the relief of the officers and private men who have become invalids in the honourable Company's ſervice, and the widows of ſuch as may have loſt their lives in it, unleſs the Company ſhould think proper to claim, and be able to prove, a right to the ſame under the new covenants; and that he intends the governor and council of Fort William to be perpetual truſtees for the appropriation of this fund in India, and the Court of Directors in England.

The board are unanimouſly of opinion, That the receipt of the legacy bequeathed by Meer Jaffier to Lord Clive, is no ways prohibited by the new covenants; and cannot here help expreſſing the lively ſenſe we have of this generous and well placed donation to ſuccour diſtreſs, which has ſo long called for relief. Agreed to return an anſwer to his Lordſhip accordingly, and at the ſame time to acquaint him, that we ſhall chearfully accept the honour he intends us, in appointing us truſtees for the appropriation of this fund in India.

Ordered, That Lord Clive's letters on this occaſion, with the anſwer be entered after theſe minutes.

No. 2.

Fort William General Conſultations, 14th April, 1766.

To William Brightwell Sumner, Eſquire, &c. Gentlemen of Council at Fort William.

Gentlemen,

I Have the honour to inform you, that upon a ſuppoſition, that the receipt of a legacy was not intended to be prohibited by the new covenants, I have received from the Begum, wife of the late Nabob, Meer Jaffier, an obligation for the ſum of five lacks of rupees, which was bequeathed to me by his Excellency a few hours before his death, in the preſence of many witneſſes, whoſe atteſtation ſhall, as ſoon as poſſible, be laid before the board. When this obligation is diſcharged, I ſhall immediately pay the amount into the Company's Treaſury at Calcutta. The intereſt ariſing therefrom I propoſe ſhall be annually diſtributed in ſuch Proportions as I eſtabliſh, among a certain number of officers, non-commiſſion officers, and private men, who are diſqualified from further ſervice, by wounds, length of ſervice, or diſeaſes contracted in the ſervice of the Company, and whoſe fortunes may be too ſcanty to afford the former a genteel, the latter a comfortable ſubſiſtence in their native country. I intend further, that the widows of all ſuch officers and ſoldiers as ſhall have been entitled to this bounty, or whoſe huſbands ſhall have loſt their lives in the ſervice, ſhall receive a certain proportion of the ſame during their widowhoods, The governor and council of Fort William will be perpetual truſtees for the appropriation of this fund in India, and the court of directors in England. On my return to the preſidency, or ſooner, if buſineſs will permit, I ſhall have the honour to lay before you ſuch regulations as I may think

think beſt adapted to the fulfilling my purpoſes above-mentioned; and on my arrival in England the ſame ſhall be confirmed, with a proper inſtrument or deed of gift of the principal and intereſt of the ſaid five lacks of rupees for ever, agreeable to the due forms of law, unleſs the Company ſhould think proper to claim, and be able to prove, a right to the ſame under the new covenants.

I have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect, Gentlemen,

Mootejyl, Your moſt obedient and moſt humble ſervant,
8th April, 1766. CLIVE.

To the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, &c.

My Lord,

We have received your favour of the 8th inſtant, expreſſing your intention of appropriating the legacy of five lacks of rupees, bequeathed to your Lordſhip by the late Nabob, Meer Jaffier, as a fund for the relief of the officers and private men, who are become invalids in the honourable Company's ſervice, and the widows of ſuch as may have loſt their lives in it. We are unanimouſly of opinion, that the receipt of this legacy is no way prohibited by the new covenants, and cannot help expreſſing the lively ſenſe we have of this generous and well-placed donation to mitigate diſtreſs, which has ſo long looked for relief.—So noble an example of beneficence cannot fail to inſure the applauſe and approbation of every one; and we ſhall chearfully accept the honour intended us by your Lordſhip, in appointing us truſtees for the appropriation of this fund in India.

We have the honour to be, my Lord,
Your Lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervants.

No. 3.

Extract of the General Letter from Bengal, dated the 28th November, 1766.

108. LORD Clive, in a letter to the board from Mootaghel, dated the 8th April laſt, informed us of his intention to appropriate a legacy of five lacks of rupees, bequeathed to him by the Nabob, Meer Jaffier, as a fund for the relief of the officers and private men who have, or may, become invalids in the Company's ſervice, and the widows of ſuch as may loſe their lives in it, unleſs the Company ſhould think proper to claim, and prove a right to the ſame, by the new covenants. His Lordſhip alſo purpoſed, That the preſident and council of Fort William ſhould be perpetual truſtees for the appropriation of this fund in India, and the court of directors in England.

109. As we do not conceive ſuch a legacy to be prohibited by the covenants, we acquainted his Lordſhip, in anſwer, That we ſhould chearfully accept the honour he intended us, in acting as truſtees on this occaſion; and as the regulations finally eſtabliſhing this noble inſtitution muſt reſt entirely with his Lordſhip, we have nothing further to obſerve, than that Lord Clive, by ſo generous an inſtance of his diſintereſtedneſs, and zealous attachment to the honour and welfare of the Company, has enſured to your forces the only advantage wherein they have hitherto been inferior to any in the known world, and thereby enſured to you a ſucceſſion of the braveſt and moſt honourable of men and officers.

No. 4.

Fort William General Conſultation, 11th December, 1766.

THE preſident lays before the board, as entered hereafter, a letter from the Nabob Syf-a-Dowlah to Lord Clive, purporting, That laſt year his late brother paid the ſum of ſix lacks of rupees into the Company's caſh, upon bond; that three lacks have ſince been paid to him at Moorſhedabad, and the balance of three lacks, which remain, he deſires may be added to the fund, eſtabliſhed by Lord Clive, for the maintenance and ſupport of the invalid military in the Company's ſervice, and the families of ſuch as may loſe their lives in it.

Ordered, That an intereſt note be granted for the ſaid money, in the name of Lord Clive, in order that his Lordſhip may appropriate the ſame to the purpoſe deſired; and the preſident is requeſted to return our thanks to the Nabob, for ſo handſomely contributing to this charitable inſtitution.

No. 5.

Fort William General Conſultation, 11th December 1766.

From the Nabob, Syfe ul Dowlah, to the Right Honourable Lord Clive.—Received 21ſt October, 1766.

SOME time ago my deceaſed brother, the Nabob Najim ul Dowlah, paid to your Excellency the ſum of five lacks of rupees, agreeable to the commands of our late father, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn; and we hear you have ſettled that ſum for the ſoldiers, &c.—Laſt year my late brother paid in ſix lacks of rupees into the Company's caſh, upon bond; of this money three lacks have been paid to me at Moorſhedabad, and the balance of three lacks, which remains, I give as a fund to be diſpoſed of in the ſame manner as the former five lacks, and requeſt your Excellency to ſettle it after the ſame manner.

A true Tranſlation. ROBERT MADDISON—Perſian Tranſlator.

No. 6.

Fort William General Conſultations, 28th January, 1767.

IN my letter of the 18th of April laſt, I informed you of a legacy of five lacks of rupees left to me by the Nabob, Meer Jaffier, and of the purpoſe to which I determined it ſhould be applied; I now beg leave to lay before you the ſeveral papers which prove inconteſtibly my title to this legacy; viz. atteſted copies and tranſlations of Nizama Dowlah's, the Lady Bejum's, and Nundcomar's acknowledgements.

The preſent Nabob being made acquainted with the fund I had eſtabliſhed, and the great encouragement it would be to the officers and ſoldiers to fight in his, as well as the Company's cauſe, generouſly added a preſent of three lacks of rupees, as will appear by his letter upon that ſubject, which has already been laid before you. All the bonds are drawn out in my name, but I acknowledge that they are not my property. I make no doubt but the Company will approve of the donation, and that upon my arrival in England, the Court of Directors will accept of my appointing them truſtees for the fund. Incloſed is a ſketch of the plan I propoſe for the diſtribution of the money; which being now a very large ſum, ſhould, I think, extend the bounty to all the Company's ſettlements in general.

No, 7.

A Certificate of a Legacy left by the late Nabob, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, to the Right Honourable Lord Clive, amounting to Five Lacks of Rupees, in Money and Effects. Given under the Hand and Seal of the Nabob, Najim ul Dowlah.

Place of the Signing.

MY late moſt honoured father, venerable as Mecca (whoſe offences are wiped away) when he was alive, of ſound mind, and in the full enjoyment of all his mortal faculties, after having appointed me his ſucceſſor, gave me repeated orders to the following purport: "Out "of the whole money and effects which I have in my poſſeſſion, I have be- "queathed the ſum of three lacks, fifty thouſand rupees in money—fifty "thouſand rupees in jewels, and one lack in gold mohurs; in all, five "lacks of rupees, in money and effects, to the light of my eyes, the Nabob firm in war, "Lord Clive, the hero—accordingly I have depoſited the aforeſaid amount with my Lady "Begum, and you will diſtribute what remains, after the ſettlement on your mother, the "Lady Begum is paid, agreeable to the ſeveral proportions which I have allotted." In witneſs, therefore, to the truth of this promiſe of the late Nabob, I have given theſe few lines as a certificate that it may be fulfilled.

Place of the Seal.

The above is a faithful tranſlation from the Perſian original, under the hand and ſeal of the Nabob, Najim ul Dowlah.—Witneſs my hand this 16th day of January, 1767,

R. MADDISON—Perſian Tranſlator.

No. 8.

A Certificate from the Lady Meny Bigum, Wife to Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, and Mother to Najim ul Dowlah.

HIS Excellency the deceaſed Nabob, when he was alive, of ſound mind, and in the full enjoyment of all his mortal faculties, gave me repeated orders to the following purport: "Out of the whole money and effects "which I have in my poſſeſſion, I have bequeathed the ſum of three lacks, "fifty thouſand rupees in money, fifty thouſand rupees in jewels, and one "lack in gold mohurs; in all, five lacks of rupees in money and effects; "to the light of my eyes, the Nabob firm in war, Lord Clive, the hero. "—The remainder, after your marriage ſettlement is paid, you will diſ-"tribute agreeable to the ſeveral proportions I have allotted."—In witneſs therefore to the truth of this promiſe of the late Nabob, I have given theſe few lines as a certificate.

Place of the Seal.

The above is a faithful and literal tranſlation from the Perſian original, under the ſeal of Meny Bigum, wife to Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, &c. Witneſs my hand this 16th of January, 1767.

R. MADDISON—Perſian Tranſlator.

No. 9,

THE Nabob, the hero of the empire, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, deceaſed (whoſe offences are wiped away) fell ſick a few days after his return from Calcutta to Moorſhedabad, and his illneſs daily increaſed upon him. When the Nabob (whoſe offences are done away) found that he muſt take his departure from this mortal world, he at that time gave orders to the Nabob, Nijim ul Dowlah, That out of his whole ready money he ſhould pay to the Nabob, Lord Clive, firm in war, the hero, the ſum of five lacks of rupees.

Place of the Seal.

The above is a faithful and literal tranſlation from the Perſian original, under the ſeal of Meha-Rajah-Nund-Komar: Witneſs my hand, this 16th day of January, 1767.

R. MADDISON,
Perſian Tranſlator.

No. 10.

A Sketch of the Plan propoſed by Lord Clive, for the Diſtribution of the Legacy left to his Lordſhip by the Nabob, Meer Jaffier, and of the Preſent from the Nabob, Syf-a-Dowlah, in Aid of his Lordſhip's intended fund.

THE whole ſum, amounting to eight lacks of ſicca rupees, to remain in the Company's treaſury at Fort William, bearing the uſual intereſt of 8 per Cent. per Annum.

The annual amount of intereſt to be diſtributed in the manner undermentioned, to ſuch a number of officers, ſoldiers and widows, as the money will admit of, the propriety of whoſe claims is to be ſettled agreeably to the dates of their certificates.

No officer or ſoldier is to be entitled to the bounty unleſs he be diſabled by wounds, or other accidents, or rendered incapable by age or length of ſervices.

No officer or ſoldier is to be entitled to this bounty, who does not produce a certificate from his commanding officer, of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further ſervice in India, together with an approbation of that certificate by the governor and council.

This bounty is only to extend to ſuch officers as are obliged, through any of the misfortunes above-mentioned, to return to England in indigent circumſtances; every officer, therefore, applying for the bounty, muſt make oath, in the moſt ſolemn manner, before the governor and council, to the following purport, viz.

A Colonel, That he is not, in real and perſonal eſtate, poſſeſſed of —— ——	£. 4,000
A Lieutenant Colonel —— —— —— —— —— —— ——	3,000
A Major —— —— —— —— —— —— —— —— ——	2,500
A Captain —— —— —— —— —— —— ——	2,000
A Lieutenant —— —— —— —— —— —— ——	1,000
An Enſign —— —— —— —— —— —— —— ——	750

DIS-

DISTRIBUTION.

To a Colonel	£. 300
To a Lieutenant Colonel	250
To a Major	200
To a Captain	150
To a Lieutenant	100
To an Enſign	70
To a Serjeant	20
To a Corporal	15
To a private Man	10

The widows of all thoſe officers and ſoldiers, who had penſions, are to enjoy one half of the ſame, ſo long as they remain unmarried.

No. 11.

To the Right Honourable Lord Clive.

From the Nabob No. 109. Received the 9th of June, 1765.

I Have been favoured with your letter, wherein you write that "there is a very large ſum "due to the merchants on account of the reſtitution: that the monthly payments to "the Company are ſome lacks of rupees behind hand; that the Company are diſtreſſed "in their expences; that the merchants ſuffer great inconveniencies from being kept out of "their money; that you underſtand I have a very large ſum ready in my treaſury; and "that you therefore deſire I will ſpeedily pay ſix lacks of rupees."

It is not unknown to you how little I am, at this time, acquainted with the collections of the country. Be there a ſmall or large ſum ready in the public treaſury, I know nothing about it: With regard to the money which is in my houſe in Calcutta, and which you have heard of, the late Nabob, at his departure out of this life, gave five lack to me, and the reſt to the Begum. By the bleſſing of God, you are a man of juſtice, and my elder brother; do whatſoever may be your pleaſure.

No, 12.

Tranſlation of a Letter from the Nabob, Nudjum ul Dowlah, to Maharajah Nundcomar, dated the 27th of Shoual, of the 7th year (the 8th of April, 1766.)

I Had the pleaſure to receive your letter and rejoice to hear of your welfare—Thank God, I am alſo well.—I met Lord Clive (the Nabob Ameer al Momalik Sabut Jung Bahadre) and General Carnac (Munſoor ul Muluk General Bahadre) at Plaſſey, and they received me very kindly. On the 24th inſtant (the 5th of April) his Lordſhip, the General, and Mr. Sykes, arrived at the Kella: the Begum, my mother, ſent Hajee Saandut to call thoſe gentlemen to her; and after much ſolicitation, prevailed on them to accept from her a paper under her ſeal, for five lacks of rupees in jewels, rupees, and gold mohurs; this I have written for your information. With regard to what you write me, that I ſhould make known my requeſts to his Lordſhip, through the General, I will follow your advice—but Nobekiſſen Moonſhy, having waited on me about buſineſs, made many profeſſions of fidelity and attachment to me, and then came, in a round-about manner to the point, and ſpoke much of the great confidence repoſed in him by his Lordſhip—In ſhort, from the tenor of his converſation it appears, that there is no one in greater credit with his Lordſhip than he is: Accordingly he ſaid to me, "Such of the Engliſh counſellors and gentlemen of rank "as were my friends, I have cauſed to be raiſed to dignity and reputation by his Lordſhip, "and Mr. George Gray, and others, who through their pride and ſelf-ſufficiency, did not "conſider me, but bore an enmity towards me, them I have cauſed to be in ſuch a man-"ner diſcredited and debaſed, that they have been turned out of their employments, and "are gone to Europe.—In like manner, Mr. Sumner, who was my enemy, I have cauſed "to be totally diſregarded and neglected. As his late Excellency looked upon me as a "faithful dependant of his own, and ſhewed me much favour, ſo do you alſo regard me "as one of your ſervants and well-wiſhers, and freely acquaint me with all your wants; "and by the bleſſing of God, I will accompliſh them. I am your well-wiſher, and I will "do for you what is not in the power of any one elſe."

As you, my friend, are much better acquainted, than I am, with the ſituation of circumſtances of perſons in Calcutta, I beg you will ſpeedily inform me, whether what Nobekiſſen has been telling me of his own conſequence, and relative to Mr. Sumner and Mr. Gray, &c.

&c. is really true or not, and ſpeedily give me your advice in what manner I ſhould behave to him, and what preſent I ſhould make him—Although he profeſſes attachment for me, and deſires me to employ him in the management of my concerns; yet as I am credibly informed that he is cloſely connected with the Naib (Mahomed Reza Cawn) that the Naib has paid him very handſomely, and is often ſending him various kinds of goods; and he is in conſequence ſincerely attached to him, and is frequently engaged night and day in conſultation with him; I therefore do not give any credit to the profeſſions he makes me, nor will I knowingly ſuffer myſelf to be impoſed upon.—Conſider this matter maturely, and write me your advice concerning it, and I will act accordingly.

No. 13.

Kind Sir and Brother,

I Received your pleaſing letter, and am acquainted with the purport of it. Thanks be to God, I am very well, and very glad to hear you are the ſame.—I had been as far as Plaſſey, in order to meet the Nabob Ameer al Momalik Sabut Jung Bahader, and Munſoor al Muluk General Bahader, whom God preſerve; and at laſt I had the meetings with great pleaſure. On the 24th of this preſent month, Nabob Ameer al Momalik, the General, and Mr. Sykes, came into the caſtle, and the Begum ſent for them by Hagee Sadut. At laſt they took a note of five lacks of rupees, in jewels, gold mohurs, and rupees, under the ſeal of the ſaid Begum; which, after many pretexts was given to them, and they received it after many excuſes. I have written this to you in order to make you acquainted with it.

Kind Sir, as you wrote me to acquaint Nabob Lud Saheb of my circumſtances, by means of the Nabob General Bahadre, I ſhall act in every thing agreeably to the advice of you, my brother: but at this time Neokiſſen Munſhy has been with me upon buſineſs. After ſetting forth his good wiſhes and gratitude, he by the way introduced the ſubject of his influence and favour with the Nabob, Lud Saheb, and expatiated much upon it.—By the purport of his converſation, I underſtood that there is no perſon who has more power and credit with the ſaid Nabob, than the ſaid Munſhy; for, ſaid he, "I have given honour "and exaltation before the ſaid Nabob, to all the counſellors and great Engliſh gentlemen, "who bear a friendſhip for me; and Mr. George Gray, and the reſt, who with pride and "inſolence made no account of me, but bore me malice and hatred—I have got them ſo "degraded and diſhonoured, that after being turned out of their poſts, they are gone to Eu-"rope—In the ſame manner Mr. Sumner, who was an enemy of mine, I cauſed him to "be ſo diſliked and diſtruſted, that he became acquainted with the end of his power. Since "(Jemab Ally) the late Nabob, looked upon me as a well-wiſher, and one of his own ſer-"vants, and did me much favour and kindneſs. You alſo, Sir, as the late Nabob did, will "pleaſe to regard me as one among the number of your ſervants and well-wiſhers, and or-"der me, without heſitation, any affairs or buſineſs you may wiſh for, and, with the "bleſſing of God, it ſhall be done agreeably to your wiſhes; and thoſe ſervices to your "government, which will be done by me, it will not be poſſible for the power of any "other,"

Seeing that you, my friend, are better acquainted with the men and ſituation of that place than I am, therefore I write you that whatever the ſaid Munſhy has ſaid of his own credit and power, his degrading and turning out Mr. George Gray, &c. and rendering Mr. Sumner deſpicable, if this is really fact, you will let me know ſoon, and whatever you judge proper and fit to be done for the regard and favour of the ſaid Munſhy, write it to me.—Kind Sir, although the ſaid Munſhy pretends to be my well-wiſher, and wants to manage my buſineſs himſelf, nevertheleſs, as it appears certain to me, from truſty people, that the ſaid Munſhy has a great regard and friendſhip for the Naib (meaning Mahomed Reza Cawn) and the Naib has given him ſomething very handſome, and is frequently ſending goods and things to him, and likewiſe as the ſaid (Munſhy) with heart and ſoul attends to the good of the ſaid Naib, and in this place is ſitting with him often whole days and nights, privately conſulting together; on this account I cannot put confidence or truſt in his words, and cannot be deceived with eyes open; and therefore, favourable Sir, having well weighed and conſidered this matter, whatever is proper advice, write me that I may act accordingly.—More: May the times be agreeable to you.

No. 14.

Agreement between the Eaſt-India Company, and the Right Honourable Lord Clive.

Preamble.

THIS indenture, made the ſixth day of April, in the tenth year of the reign of our ſovereign Lord George the third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, defender of the faith; and in the year of our lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy; between the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies, of the one part, and the Right Honourable Robert Lord Clive, baron of Plaſſey, in the kingdom of Ireland, and knight of the moſt honourable order of the Bath, of the other part: Whereas Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, deceaſed, late Nabob of the kingdom or province of Bengal, did before his death, in the preſence of three witneſſes (to wit) Najim al Dowla, his ſon, Lady Begam, his wife, and Mehah Rajah Nundcomar, according to the form and manner of teſtamentary acts uſed in that country, bequeath unto the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, out of the monies and effects which the ſaid Nabob had in his poſſeſſion, the ſum of three lacks of rupees, 50,000 rupees in money, 50,000 rupees in jewels, and one lack in gold mohurs, in all five lacks of rupees, as by the contents of the ſaid bequeſt contained in three certificates, made by the aforeſaid witneſſes, in the Peſian language, and the tranſlations thereof into the Engliſh language, now in the cuſtody of the ſaid Company, may more fully appear: And whereas at the time of the ſaid Meer Jaffier's death, the ſaid Robert Lord Clive was at ſea, on his voyage from England to India, and after his arrival in the province of Bengal, Najim al Dowla, eldeſt ſon of the ſaid Meer Jaffier, did, agreeably to the commands of his ſaid father, pay to the ſaid Robert Lord Clive the ſaid five lacks of ſicca rupees, of the value of £.62,833. 6*s*. 8*d*. Sterling, which the ſaid Robert Lord Clive paid into the ſaid Eaſt-India Company's treaſury at Calcutta, at different times, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix, and thereupon notes were ſigned to his Lordſhip for the ſame five lacks of ſicca rupees, carrying intereſt after the rate of £. 8 per cent per annum ſterling, until paid. And whereas the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, being zealous for the proſperity of the ſaid Company, the ſecurity of their territories, and territorial revenues in India, belonging to them, and their trade and commerce, which greatly depend on the bravery and conduct of the ſaid Company's troops, and conſidering that the eſtabliſhment of a proviſion for ſuch of the officers and private men employed in the Company's ſervice, as ſhould be diſabled by age, war, or diſeaſe contracted during their ſervice, would tend to induce fit perſons to enter into the ſaid ſervice, and encourage the bravery of the ſoldiery employed therein, hath propoſed to the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company to appropriate the intereſt of the ſaid five lacks of rupees, for the ſupport of a certain number of officers, non-commiſſion officers, and private men, in the ſervice of the ſaid Company, who from wounds, length of ſervice, or diſeaſes contracted during their ſervice, were unable or unfit to ſerve any longer, and whoſe fortunes might be too ſcanty to afford the officers a decent, and the private men a comfortable, ſubſiſtence, in their native country; and alſo to make ſome proviſion for the widows of ſuch officers and private men as ſhould have been intitled to the ſaid bounty, or whoſe huſbands ſhould have loſt their lives in the ſaid United Company's ſervice: And whereas Syf ul Dowlah, the preſent Nabob of Bengal aforeſaid, hath given to the ſaid United Company the ſum of three lacks of rupees, as an addition to the above-mentioned fund: And whereas the ſaid three lacks of rupees were carried to account in the ſaid United Company's Treaſury in the month of April one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſeven, and the ſaid Company's note for the ſaid three lacks of ſicca rupees, amounting to the ſum of £.37,700. ſterling, carrying intereſt after the rate of £.8. by the hundred, by the year, was iſſued from the ſaid Company's treaſury at Calcutta, payable to the ſaid Robert Lord Clive: And whereas the ſaid Robert Lord Clive hath alſo propoſed that the ſaid Court of Directors, and their Succeſſors, ſhall be perpetual truſtees of the ſaid fund of five lacks of rupees, as well as of the ſaid three lacks of rupees, for the due application and appropriation of the intereſt and produce thereof;

thereof; which ſaid truſt the ſaid Court of Directors have conſented and agreed to accept of: And whereas it has been agreed by and between the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, and the ſaid Court of Directors, that the ſaid eight lacks of rupees ſhall, from the twenty-ninth day of *September*, which was in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix, carry intereſt at and after the ſaid rate of £.8. by the hundred, by the year, upon and ſubject to the ſeveral truſts, conditions, agreements, and proviſoes hereinafter mentioned: And whereas the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, in purſuance of the ſaid agreement, hath delivered up the ſaid caſh notes for five lacks, and three lacks of rupees, to the ſaid Court of Directors, to be cancelled: Now this indenture witneſſeth, that for the better and more effectually carrying the aforeſaid agreement into execution, it is hereby mutually covenanted, concluded, declared, and agreed, by and between the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, and the ſaid United Company, that the ſaid eight lacks of rupees ſhall remain in the hands or treaſury of the ſaid United Company, who ſhall yearly and every year, at their houſe or office in Leadenhall Street, London, or in any other houſe or place where the buſineſs of the ſaid Company ſhall be tranſacted and carried on, pay and allow the ſum of £.8,042. 13*s*. 4*d*. of lawful money of Great Britain, for and in lieu of intereſt of the ſaid eight lacks of rupees, being after the rate of £.8. by the hundred, by the year, to ſuch perſons, in ſuch proportions, and for ſuch purpoſes as are hereinafter mentioned, of and concerning the ſame. And it is further covenanted, concluded, and agreed upon, between the ſaid parties, that the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, and their ſucceſſors, ſhall be perpetual truſtees, ſubject to the agreements and proviſoes hereinafter contained, of the ſaid fund of eight lacks of rupees, for the due application and appropriation of the intereſt and produce thereof, from the twenty-ninth day of *September* laſt paſt, to and amongſt, and for the relief and maintenance of European officers and ſoldiers, who ſhall become invalids or ſuperannuated in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, and of their widows, and alſo the widows of ſuch officers and ſoldiers as ſhall die in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, in the ſhares, dividends and proportions following (that is to ſay) To all commiſſioned and ſtaff or warrant officers, one moiety or half part of the ordinary ſtated pay they were reſpectively intitled to whilſt in commiſſion or ſervice; to all ſerjeants, corporals, and private men, the like pay is allowed and payable to the out penſioners of the ſame ranks or degrees belonging to Chelſea Hoſpital, and to the ſeveral widows of all ſuch officers and ſoldiers, one quarter or fourth part of the ordinary ſtated pay their reſpective huſbands were intitled to when in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, yearly and every year, during their ſeveral and reſpective natural lives: but it is declared, that the proviſions hereby intended for ſuch widows, ſhall be paid upon ſuch certificates and teſtimonials only as the Court of Directors for that time being ſhall think reaſonable or neceſſary to intitle them thereunto, and ſhall be payable during their reſpective widowhoods, but no longer; and in caſe of their intermarriages, then ſuch proviſion ſhall from thenceforth ceaſe. Provided always, and it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon, by and between the ſaid parties, That no officer or ſoldier is to be or ſhall be entitled to any bounty or proviſion, under or by virtue of theſe preſents, unleſs he ſhall, in the Judgment of the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company for the time being, be found diſabled by wounds, or rendered incapable by age or other accidents, and unleſs he ſhall produce a certificate from and under the hand of his commanding officer, and of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further ſervice in India, together with an approbation of ſuch certificate, by the governor and council of the preſidency where ſuch officer ſhall have ſerved; but nevertheleſs if any officer or ſoldier in the ſaid Company's ſervice, reſiding or being in *England*, ſhall apply to the ſaid Court of Directors to be admitted to the ſaid bounty or proviſion, the ſaid Court of Directors ſhall admit ſuch officer or ſoldier thereunto, if they ſhall adjudge him to be a proper object of ſuch bounty. Provided alſo, and it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon, That the bounty or proviſion hereby intended for and in favour of the ſaid officers, is only to extend to ſuch of them as ſhall be obliged, through any of the misfortunes above-mentioned, to return to England in indigent circumſtances; and that all and every ſuch officers applying for the ſaid bounty, ſhall, previous to their becoming intitled thereto, according to their ſeveral ranks or commiſſions, make oath in the moſt ſolemn manner, before the governor and council, to the purport and effect

The eight lacks to bear 8 per cent. intereſt.

Intereſt to be paid in London.

Court of Directors and their ſucceſſors to be perpetual truſtees.

The truſt to commence from the 29th of September 1769.

To be for relief and maintenance of European officers and ſoldiers, invalids or ſuperannuated, their widows, or widows of officers and ſoldiers dying in the ſervice.

Commiſſioned, ſtaff, or warrant officers, to have half the ordinary ſtated pay they were entitled to whilſt in ſervice.

Serjeants, corporals, and private men, the like pay as the Chelſea penſioners of the ſame degrees.

Widows of officers and ſoldiers one fourth of the ordinary ſtated pay their huſbands enjoyed whilſt in ſervice; and to be paid yearly and every year during their natural lives.

Widows admitted on ſuch teſtimonials only as the court of directors ſhall approve.

To continue during widowhood, and no longer.

No officer or ſoldier to be admitted, unleſs diſabled by wounds, or rendered incapable by age or other accidents. The directors to be judges.

Officers and ſoldiers muſt produce a certificate from their commanding officer of their being invalids, and unfit for ſervice in India; and an approbation of ſuch certificate from the governor and council.

The court may admit petitioners in the Company's ſervice, reſiding in England if they ſhall judge them fit objects.

A Colonel muſt ſwear he is not poſſeſſed of, or intitled to real and perſonal eſtate to the value of 4,000l. a Lieutenant Colonel, of 3,000l. a Major of 2,500l. a Captain of 2,000l. a Lieutenant of 1,000l. and an Enſign of 750l.

effect following (that is to ſay) A colonel ſhall ſwear that he or any perſon or perſons in truſt for him, is or are not ſeiſed or poſſeſſed of, or intitled unto any real and perſonal eſtate to the amount in value together of £.4,000.—A lieutenant colonel to the amount in value of £.3,000.—A major to the amount in value of £.2,500.—A captain to the amount in value of £.2,000.—A lieutenant to the amount in value of £.1,000.—and an enſign or cornet to the amount in value of £.750. And in caſe of the death of any officer of the ranks above-mentioned, in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, the widow of every ſuch officer, before ſhe ſhall be admitted to partake of the ſaid bounty or penſion, ſhall produce and lay before the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, ſuch evidence as to them ſhall ſeem reaſonable, that her huſband, under whom ſhe derives ſuch claim, did not die ſeiſed or poſſeſſed of real and perſonal eſtate to the amount herein before ſpecified, according to his reſpective rank in the ſaid ſervice. Provided nevertheleſs, and it is further concluded and agreed upon, That the ſeveral perſons applying for the benefit of the ſaid fund or bounty ſhall be admitted and become intitled thereto, according to the times of their reſpective arrivals in England; and in caſe any diſputes or differences ſhall happen or ariſe, touching or concerning the qualifications of perſons claiming right to penſions under theſe preſents, or the diſtribution thereof, or the times of their being reſpectively intitled thereto, ſuch differences or diſputes ſhall, from time to time, be decided and adjuſted by the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, and not otherwiſe. And whereas the intereſt due from the ſaid United Company, upon the ſaid caſh notes hereinbefore mentioned, amounted on the twenty-ninth day of September laſt, to the ſum of £.24,128: Now it is hereby further concluded and agreed by and between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, That the ſaid ſum of £.24,128 ſhall remain in the hands of the ſaid United Company in India, and ſhall be deemed and conſidered as capital, and ſhall carry intereſt from the ſaid twenty-ninth day of September laſt, at and after the rate of £.8 by the hundred, by the year, which intereſt or yearly produce thereof ſhall be from time to time paid, diſpoſed of, and diſtributed, by the Court of Directors of the ſaid United Company, for the time being, in the firſt place for the diſcharging all incident charges and expences attending carrying into execution the fund hereby eſtabliſhed, and ſubject thereto, unto and amongſt ſuch objects of charity, belonging to the ſaid United Company's Military ſervice, or the widows or families of ſuch objects as the ſaid Court of Directors ſhall in their diſcretions think fit. Provided alſo, and the ſaid United Company do hereby covenant, promiſe, and agree to and with the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, his executors, adminiſtrators, and aſſigns, That in caſe the ſaid United Company ſhall at any time hereafter, by any means whatſoever, otherwiſe than by the fate of war, be diſpoſſeſſed, or deprived of, or part with their territorial poſſeſſions in Bengal, and the revenues ariſing thereby, ſo that the Jaghire granted unto, and now enjoyed by, the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, ſhall, during the term agreed upon between the ſaid United Company and the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, for the continuation thereof, ceaſe to be paid unto his ſaid Lordſhip, or his aſſigns, or in caſe the ſaid United Company ſhall at any time before the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, ceaſe to employ and maintain in their immediate pay and ſervice, a military force in the Eaſt-Indies, then and in either of the ſaid caſes, the ſaid United Company ſhall and will forthwith pay unto the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, his executors, adminiſtrators, or aſſigns, at their treaſury in Calcutta aforeſaid, the full ſum of five lacks of ſicca rupees, to and for his and their own proper uſe and benefit, but ſubject nevertheleſs with the intereſt of the aforeſaid three lacks of rupees in the proportion the ſaid reſpective ſums bear to each other, to the payment of all ſuch penſions and annuities as ſhall at the time either of the aforeſaid contingencies ſhall happen, be payable out of or chargeable upon the ſaid truſt fund; which ſaid penſions and annuities it is hereby fully underſtood and agreed, ſhall continue to be paid and payable out of the intereſt of the ſaid eight lacks of rupees, or ſuch part thereof as ſhall be wanting and neceſſary, during the lives of the ſeveral perſons then intitled thereto. And it is hereby further concluded and agreed upon between the ſaid parties to theſe preſents, that in caſe, at any time after the commencement of the ſaid year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, it ſhall ſo happen, that the ſaid United Company ſhall have no military force in their actual pay and ſervice in the Eaſt-Indies; that then and in ſuch caſe the intereſt and produce of the ſaid truſt fund

Widows muſt lay before the court ſatisfactory evidence, that their reſpective huſbands did not die worth the ſums above ſpecified.

To be intitled from the times of their arrival in England.

All diſputes or doubts concerning qualifications of petitioners, diſtribution, or times of payment, to be decided by the court of directors only.

Intereſt on the eight lacks due 29th September, 1769, value 24,128l. to be erected into a capital, and to carry 8l. per cent. intereſt from that time.

The contingent fund is to be appropriated for all incident expences of carrying the fund into execution, and for ſuch objects of charity, belonging to the military, their widows or families, as the court ſhall think fit.

If the Company ſhould loſe, or part with their territorial poſſeſſions in Bengal, ſo that Lord Clive's jahire ſhould ceaſe before the term agreed upon, or if the Company ſhould ceaſe to maintain a military force in India before 1784, in either caſe the five lacks to be reſtored to Lord Clive, or his executors, but to be chargeable with their proportion of all the penſions aſſigned on the eight lacks generally.

If the Company employ no military force in India, after 1784, the intereſt of

of

of eight lacks of rupees, ſhall from thenceforth from time to time be applied, paid, and diſtributed, towards the ſupport, relief, and proviſion, of Marine officers and ſeamen, who ſhall become invalids or ſuperannuated in the ſaid United Company's ſervice, and the widows of ſuch of them as ſhall die in the ſaid ſervice, during their reſpective widowhoods only, in ſuch ſhares and proportions, in manner or form, as, in caſe ſuch event ſhall happen, ſhall be concluded and agreed upon between the ſaid United Company and the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, or his legal repreſentative or repreſentatives. And laſtly, it is hereby expreſsly ſtipulated and agreed, and the ſaid United Company do hereby covenant with the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, his executors, adminiſtrators, and aſſigns, that in caſe it ſhall happen that the ſaid United Company, after the commencement of the ſaid year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, ſhall ceaſe to employ a military force in their actual pay and ſervice in the Eaſt-Indies, and alſo Ships for carrying on their trade and commerce, then and in ſuch caſe, as ſoon as the ſaid event ſhall happen, the ſaid United Company ſhall and will pay unto the ſaid Robert Lord Clive, his executors, adminiſtrators, or aſſigns, for his and their own uſe, at their treaſury in Calcutta aforeſaid, the full ſum of five lacks of ſicca rupees, but ſubject nevertheleſs with the intereſt of the ſaid three lacks of rupees, in the proportion the ſaid ſums bear to each other, to the payment of all ſuch penſions and annuities, for the lives of the perſons then intitled thereto only, as ſhall at the time ſuch event ſhall happen be payable out of, or chargeable upon the ſaid truſt fund, according to the true intent and meaning of theſe preſents. In witneſs whereof the ſaid United Company have hereunto affixed their common ſeal, and the ſaid Robert Lord Clive hath ſet his hand and ſeal, the day and year firſt above written.

the eight lacks to be applied for relief of officers and ſeamen, invalids, or ſuperannuated, and the widows of ſuch of them as ſhall die in the ſervice, during widowhood only.

If after 1784, the Company ſhall ceaſe to employ either troops or ſhipping, they ſhall repay Lord Clive, or his executors, the five lacks, chargeable with the penſions that may then be upon them.

(Company's Seal.) (L. S.) Clive.

Sealed and delivered, being firſt duly ſtampt, by the within named Robert Lord Clive, in the preſence of

RICHARD HOLT,
THOMAS MORTON.

General Regulations for tranſacting the Buſineſs of the Military Fund.

At a Court of Directors of the Eaſt-India Company, October 3, 1770:

The Court, having taken into conſideration the covenant between the Eaſt-India Company and the Right Honourable Lord Clive, for eſtabliſhing a fund for the relief of European officers and ſoldiers, invalids or ſuperannuated, their widows and the widows of officers and ſoldiers dying in the ſervice, reſolved, That the following rules and regulations, founded on the ſaid deed, and as nearly conformable as the nature of it will admit, to the regulations for paying the Chelſea penſioners, are proper to be obſerved in tranſacting the buſineſs of this fund; and that the paymaſter thereof do govern himſelf thereby, in paying ſuch penſions as ſhall be aſſigned upon the ſame.

I.

That every petitioning officer and ſoldier ſhall produce a certificate from his commanding officer, of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further ſervice in India, together with an approbation of ſuch certificate, by the governor and council of the preſidency where ſuch officer or ſoldier ſhall have ſerved.

Taken from the Deed.

II.

That every commiſſioned officer ſhall previouſly make oath before the governor and council, *viz.* a colonel, that he or any perſon in truſt for him is not poſſeſſed of, or intitled to, real and perſonal eſtate to the value of £.4000—A lieutenant colonel of £.3000—A major of £.2500—A captain of £.2000—A lieutenant of £.1000—and an enſign of £.750.

Taken from the Deed.

III.

Taken from the Deed.

That all commiſſioned, ſtaff or warrant officers ſhall have half the ordinary ſtated pay they enjoyed whilſt in ſervice.

IV.

The King's artillery are paid in this manner.

That ſerjeants belonging to the Artillery ſhall receive nine-pence per day, and ſuch as have loſt a limb one ſhilling per day: private men of the Artillery ſix-pence per day, and ſuch as loſe a limb nine-pence per day.

V.

The ſame pay as the Chelſea penſioners receive.

That all other non-commiſſioned officers and private men ſhall have four-pence three-farthings per day.

VI.

Taken from the Deed.

That all officers and private men ſhall be intitled from the times of their reſpective debarkations in England.

VII.

The King's officers are paid in a ſimilar manner.

That commiſſioned officers ſhall only be paid as their penſions become due, and ſhall receive at the Company's office in London only, either in perſon, or by power of Attorney, half-yearly at Midſummer and at Chriſtmas.

VIII.

The Chelſea penſioners are paid in this manner.

That non-commiſſioned officers and private men ſhall, immediately upon admiſſion, be paid in advance for the remaining number of days of the current half year, and at the expiration thereof every ſucceeding half year in advance.

IX.

The ſame regulations as is obſerved at Chelſea.

That non-commiſſioned officers and private men, reſiding within twenty-five miles of London, ſhall be paid at the Company's office in London, and not otherwiſe.

X.

Founded upon the Chelſea regulations.

That ſuch non-commiſſioned officers and private men as reſide at a greater diſtance from London, or in Scotland or Ireland, be paid at ſuch times, by ſuch perſons, and in ſuch manner, as the Court of Directors ſhall, from time to time, find convenient, in perſon and not otherwiſe.

XI.

This anſwers to the certified copy of their diſcharge given to the Chelſea penſioners on admiſſion.

That non-commiſſioned officers and private men ſhall receive on admiſſion a certificate thereof, ſigned by the paymaſter of this fund, containing a deſcription of ſuch penſioner, his age, and other particulars; which certificate the penſioners ſhall exhibit to the perſons directed to pay them, each time of payment, and no penſion ſhall be paid, unleſs this certificate is produced by the penſioner.

XII.

The ſame rule is obſerved with the Chelſea penſioners.

That country penſioners ſhall receive in advance for the firſt half year, from Midſummer or Chriſtmas next enſuing the date of their admiſſion, on producing the above certificate only to the perſons appointed to pay them; but immediately after receiving ſuch firſt half-yearly payment, every penſioner ſhall make two affidavits of the ſame tenor and date, before a Magiſtrate, conformably to the printed inſtructions he ſhall receive from the paymaſter of this fund; one of which affidavits muſt be tranſmitted to the ſaid paymaſter in London, in ſuch manner as the Court of Directors ſhall from time to time direct; the other muſt be exhibited to the perſon that ſhall be empowered to pay him, together with the penſioner's certificate of admiſſion, which vouchers will intitle ſuch penſioner to receive again in advance, at the expiration of the half year. Theſe affidavits muſt be repeated, and ſent to London twice a year, immediately after Midſummer and Chriſtmas.

XIII.

The rule at Chelſea.

That no penſioner ſhall be paid in the Country, unleſs the above-mentioned affidavit has been timely received by the paymaſter of this fund in London.

XIV.

Taken from the Deed.

That if a penſioner does not appear to claim his penſion for three half years, he ſhall be conſidered as dead, and his name be omitted in the half-

half-yearly warrant; but if ſuch penſioner ſhall afterwards appear perſonally at the Company's office in London, or furniſh ſatisfactory proof otherwiſe to the Court of Directors of his being alive, he ſhall again be put on the liſt, and receive all arrears.

XV.

That widows of commiſſioned officers muſt lay before the court ſuch evidence as to them ſhall ſeem reaſonable, that their huſbands, under whom they derive their claim, did not die poſſeſſed of real and perſonal eſtate to the amount ſpecified in regulation the ſecond, according to their reſpective ranks in the ſervice. Taken from the Deed.

XVI.

That widows of commiſſioned officers be paid in perſon, or by power of Attorney, at the Company's office in London only. The ſame as the officers.

XVII.

That widows of non-commiſſioned officers and private men ſhall prove their marriage to the ſatisfaction of the Court of Directors.

XVIII.

That widows of non-commiſſioned officers and private men, reſiding within twenty-five miles of London, ſhall be paid at the Company's office in London only; and thoſe who live at a greater diſtance ſhall be paid in the ſame manner, and upon the ſame half-yearly affidavits, as the men; and in either caſe they ſhall receive in perſon, and not otherwiſe, as in articles XI. and XII.

XIX.

That the penſions granted to widows ſhall continue during their widowhood, and no longer.

XX.

That the penſions of commiſſioned officers and their widows ſhall be paid neat, without any fee or deduction whatever.

XXI.

That the penſions of ſuch non-commiſſioned officers, and their widows as receive in perſon, in London, ſhall be paid neat, without any fee or deduction whatever.

XXII.

That ſuch of the non-commiſſioned officers and private men, and ſuch of their widows, as are paid in the country, ſhall each time allow one ſhilling to the perſon that pays them, for his trouble.

XXIII.

That in caſes of inſanity, ſatisfactory proof be made thereof to the Court of Directors, and the penſion paid to a churchwarden, in behalf of the pariſh, towards the penſioner's ſubſiſtence.

Inſtructions for the Penſioners on the Fund eſtabliſhed for Relief of the Honourable Eaſt-India Company's Military, &c.

All non commiſſion officers and private ſoldiers admitted penſioners on the above fund, reſiding within twenty-five miles of London, muſt receive in perſon at the Company's office there; and ſuch as live at a greater diſtance from London than twenty-five miles, as well as thoſe in Scotland and Ireland, are hereby required and directed, that early in the months of April and October, every year, they do apply themſelves to one of his Majeſty's juſtices of the peace, in the neighbourhood where they reſide, and make two affidavits of the following tenor, and of one date, which affidavits the Court of Directors of the Eaſt-India Company requeſt the ſaid magiſtrate to ſign and date, viz,

came before me,

one of his Majeſty's juſtices of the peace for the county of
and made oath that he was admitted a penſioner on the military fund of the honourable Eaſt-India Company, the day of 17 was then aged about years, and was diſcharged for and now lives in the pariſh of in the county of

Sworn before me, this day of 17

One

One of the two affidavits drawn according to the above form ſworn before, dated and atteſted by a magiſtrate, is to be ſent by the General poſt, directed (till further orders) " To the pay-" maſter of the honourable Eaſt-India Company's military fund, at the Eaſt-India Houſe, " London ;" the other affidavit, of the ſame tenor and date, the penſioner muſt keep to ſhew, together with his certificate of admiſſion, ſigned by the paymaſter, to the perſon who ſhall be empowered to pay him in the country.

The above-mentioned affidavits muſt be made and tranſmitted to London in April and in October, ſo as to be received by the Company's paymaſter full two months before the 25th of June and the 25th of December reſpectively. They muſt be drawn on one piece of paper, big enough to fold up in the form of a letter, and the above direction wrote on the back thereof, to avoid unneceſſary expence of poſtage.

No penſioner will be paid unleſs the above-mentioned affidavit has been timely received, twice a year, by the paymaſter of this fund in London ; nor unleſs the other affidavit of the ſame date as well as the certificate of admiſſion, are produced by the penſioner every time of payment.

All penſioners are to take particular notice, that neither the whole, nor any part of their penſion money will be paid at any time, nor under any pretence whatever, to any other perſon or perſons than themſelves only ; conſequently they cannot commiſſion or empower any one to receive for them ; and no receipts, acknowledgements, or aſſignments for money, any penſioner may borrow on his penſion, will be diſcharged, or paid any regard to, by the paymaſter of this fund. But proper care will be taken that the penſioners themſelves ſhall be regularly paid twice a year, in whatever part of England, Scotland, or Ireland, they may reſide, provided they duly obſerve the orders and directions contained in theſe inſtructions.

Every penſioner who receives in the country, is to allow one ſhilling each time of payment, to the perſon he is paid by.

No. 15.

Moorſhedabad, 17th December, 1770.

At a Conſultation; PRESENT,

Richard Becher, Eſquire, Preſident,
James Lawrell, and
John Graham Eſquires.

From the Beghum.

THE reaſon of the Nabob Muzzer Jung's enmity and reſentment is this; when Lord Clive came up the country he borrowed the ſum of ſix lacks of rupees for which he gave a Tuncawn Muzzafer Jung, three lacks of which having diſcharged to me, I paid it to Syf ul Dowlah, which has exalted his diſpleaſure ; and the remaining three lacks due on that account, as well as two lacks of the preſent arrears, he procraſtinates payment of ; and in order to ſink this money for his own benefit, has bound his loins with enmity, to the utter ruin of my affairs, and to involve me in diſgrace and contempt : you will pleaſe to conſider, gentlemen, what the Nabob, Sabut Jung (Lord Clive) aſſigned for the ſupport of my honour and credit ; who is he that oppoſes and counteracts his decrees ? As I am acquainted with the affairs of the houſhold ; fearful of diſcovery, he has placed me in obſcurity, and appointed ignorant people to authority, who have lengthened the hand of uſurpation upon the treaſure and jewels. The reaſon I have not before repreſented my ſituation is, the Nabob Muzzuffer Jung's accompanying Mr. Becher, when he came to viſit me, by which means I was deprived of an opportunity of ſpeaking with him ; but ſince, to my good fortune, Mr. Reed, Mr. Lawrell, and Mr. Graham are now arrived, and in their viſit adminiſtered me comfort : I eſteemed it the luckieſt of moments; and, after having ſent away Mobarek ul Dowlah, who at other times never came near me, and only accompanied the gentlemen at the incitement of my enemies, I revealed to them particularly the uneaſineſs of my heart. For your information I have likewiſe now wrote you the particulars of my caſe, in hopes that you will yield me redreſs, otherwiſe I ſwear by God and Jeſus Chriſt, that I will leave Moorſhedabad to go to the committee, becauſe living in this diſgrace is worſe than death.

At a Conſultation at Moorſhedabad the 3d of January, 1771 ; PRESENT,

Meſſieurs { James Lawrell, Preſident.
John Graham.

The Naib Subah delivers in the following anſwer to the repreſentation of Mhunny Begum :

The affair of the ſix lacks of rupees is this : In the time of Nudjum ul Dowlah, Lord Clive, through my means, borrowed of him ſix lacks of rupees in Calcutta, and directed me

me to repay it from the Khalſah. After Nudjum ul Dowlah's death, before my departure to Azimabad, I accordingly granted a Tuncaw for this ſum, three lacks of which were paid and lodged in the Mehalſerai of Mhunny Begum; but on meeting Lord Clive at Mongheer, on his way down from the preſence, he informed me of his having paid three lacks as Piſhcaſh, on procuring Sunnuds for the appointment of Syf ul Dowlah to the Muſnud, and directed me to write an order not to diſcharge the balance of the Tuncaw, which has been inſerted in the King's accounts with Syf ul Dowlah.

No. 16.

Extract of a Letter from the Right Honourable Lord Clive to the Committees of Treaſury and Correſpondence, dated 28th Auguſt 1767.

Par. 33. BEFORE I conclude, you will permit me to ſuggeſt to you the expediency of ſettling, as ſoon as poſſible, the legacy of five lacks of rupees left to me by the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn, in the manner I propoſed in my letters to the Council at Fort William, dated 8th April 1766, and 19th January 1767, viz. as a fund for the maintenance of officers and ſoldiers diſabled or ſuperannuated in the Company's ſervice, and likewiſe for their widows. The donation of three lacks from the preſent Nabob in aid of that fund will allow the bounty to be extended to all your ſettlements in general, and I think that its being finally regulated and publicly known, will greatly tend to the ſpeedy ſupply, as well as encouragement of the officers and men now wanting to complete your Military eſtabliſhment, on any day you may be pleaſed to appoint. I will ſend my lawyers to confer with yours upon the ſubject, and adjuſt every neceſſary regulation for the propoſed penſions without delay.

No. 17.

Berkley Square, 16th January 1768.

Gentlemen,

YOU are not unacquainted with the fund which I propoſe to eſtabliſh for the maintenance of ſuperannuated and invalided officers and ſoldiers, and their widows. In my letter to the Committees of correſpondence and treaſury of the 28th of Auguſt laſt (an extract of which I encloſe) I expreſſed my deſire that the regulations might be ſpeedily ſettled; but having not received any anſwer from them, I now think proper to addreſs you upon this ſubject. My idea, you will obſerve, was, that the Court of Directors ſhould be truſtees for the fund. What I have at preſent to requeſt, is, that you would be pleaſed to ſignify to me your reſolution to undertake, or to decline this truſt; more eſpecially as I am under an immediate neceſſity of going abroad for my health, and ſeveral proper objects have petitioned me for the penſion. The advantages to the Company's ſervice, as well as the happineſs of individuals, are ſo intimately connected with the execution of this plan, that I cannot but be impatient to ſee it completed.

I have the honour to be, with great reſpect,
Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

To the honourable the Court of Directors for affairs of the honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies.

CLIVE.

No. 18.

CASE.

AT the unanimous requeſt of a General Court of Proprietors of Eaſt-India Stock, Lord Clive accepted the government of Bengal in May 1764; and in conformity to a new regulation in that Month propoſed and eſtabliſhed, executed covenants with the Eaſt-India Company before he left England: The form of which is hereunto annexed, No. 1, and 2.

Lord Clive ſailed from England the 4th of June 1764, and arrived in Bengal the 3d of May 1765.

The Nabob of Bengal, Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, by a verbal will (copies of the atteſtations whereof are hereunto annexed, No. 3, 4, and 5,) left to Lord Clive a legacy of five lack of rupees, in teſtimony of the great regard and friendſhip he had for Lord Clive, and in gratitude for the many important ſervices formerly rendered the Nabob by his Lordſhip.

The Nabob died the 5th of February 1765; Lord Clive being then on his Voyage could have no knowledge of the Nabob's intention, nor can any ſuſpicion ariſe by his Lordſhip having influenced the Nabob in his favour.

Although Lord Clive might have declined accepting the donation until he had been out of the ſervice, when the covenant could not bind him, yet he immediately accepted it with a declared purpoſe to eſtabliſh the ſame as a fund for the ſupport of invalid officers and ſoldiers in the Company's ſervice, and their widows, and offered to confirm the fund by a proper inſtrument or deed of gift for ever, agreeable to the due forms of law, unleſs the Company ſhould claim and be able to prove a right to the legacy under the above-mentioned covenants, or otherwiſe. Copies and extracts of letters, and other papers relating to this matter, are alſo herewith left for your conſideration, No. 6.

If Lord Clive had not accepted the government of Bengal, the Eaſt-India Company could not have had any pretence to claim this legacy. And though Lord Clive was actually governor and preſident at the time he accepted it, yet neither his offices, nor the pay or emoluments belonging to them, commenced till his arrival in Bengal, although the Company paid the expences of his paſſage thither; and as the bounty intended by the Nabob to Lord Clive was a teſtamentary act out of perſonal regard for him, and for ſervices rendered the Nabob ſeveral years before the covenant ſubſiſted, and as his Lordſhip was not, at the time it was given, in the actual exerciſe of either of the offices to which he was appointed, your opinion is deſired.

Whether Lord Clive, under the circumſtances of this caſe, is entitled to the above-mentioned legacy without the conſent of the Court of Directors of the Eaſt-India Company.

I am of opinion that Lord Clive, under the circumſtances of this caſe, is entitled to the above-mentioned legacy, without the conſent of the Court of Directors of the Eaſt-India Company; and that the covenants could never be intended to reſtrain thoſe who executed them from receiving a legacy left (as in the preſent inſtance) as an honourable mark of gratitude, friendſhip, and eſteem.

FLETCHER NORTON.

Lincoln's Inn, 6th May, 1769.

No. 19.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated the 16th of March 1768.

136. ALTHOUGH we are of opinion that by the ſpirit of the covenants entered into by Lord Clive, he could not accept of the legacy bequeathed him by the Nabob Meer Jaffier, without our conſent; yet conſidering the benevolent purpoſes to which his Lordſhip intends it to be applied, we do permit him to accept the ſame for the uſes propoſed: And we ſhall upon his Lordſhip's return from abroad, conſider of ſuch further meaſures as may be proper for carrying the ſame into execution; which will be communicated to you in our next advices.

137. It is with great pleaſure we obſerve the Nabob has given the ſum of three lacks towards the extenſion of this beneficent deſign; and he is to be acquainted, it gives us the ſtrongeſt impreſſions of his generoſity.

No. 20.

STATE of the East-India Company's Military Fund, with a particular Account of the Distribution.

STATE of the Capital Military Fund of £.100,533 : 6 : 8, at Christmas, 1772. Annual interest £.8,042.

To 3¼ Years Interest, at 8 per Cent. from 29th September, 1769, to Christmas, 1772		£.	26,136	10	—
By Cash paid in Pensions from 29th September, 1769, to Christmas, 1772		£.	3,046	8	—
By Balance			23,090	2	—
			26,136	10	—

STATE of the Contingent Military Fund of £.24,128, at Christmas, 1772. Annual Interest, £.1930.

To 3¼ Years Interest, at 8 per Cent. from 29th September, 1769, to Christmas, 1772		£.	6,272	10	—
By Cash paid for Gratuities and other incident Expences, from 29th September, 1769, to Christmas, 1772		£.	2,512	19	—
By Balance			3,759	11	—
			6,272	10	—

Standing Charges on the Capital Military Fund at Christmas, 1772.

1	Captain of Artillery		£.	100	—	—
6	Captains of Infantry	at 5s per Day		547	10	—
2	Lieutenants of Ditto	at 2s 6d		91	5	—
1	Ensign	at 2s		36	10	—
2	Widows of Lieutenant Colonels	at 5s		182	10	—
3	Widows of Majors	at 3s 9d		205	6	3
4	Widows of Captains	at 2s 6d		182	10	—
5	Widows of Lieutenants of Infantry	at 1s 3d		114	1	3
1	Widow of a Lieutenant of Artillery	at £.25 per Ann.		25	—	—
1	Widow of a Lieutenant Fireworker	at 1s per Day		18	5	—
1	Widow of an Ensign	at 1s		18	5	—
1	Widow of a Master Gunner	at £.15 per Ann.		15	—	—
93	Private Men of the Infantry	at 4d¼ per Day		671	16	6¼
9	Artillery Men	at 9d		123	3	9
3	Ditto	at 6d		27	7	6
2	Widows of Private Men	at 2d½		7	12	1
			£.	2336	2	4¼

Standing Charges on the Contingent Military Fund, at Christmas, 1772.

Annual Allowance to the Widow of Colonel Ford		£.	200	—	—
Additional Allowance to the Widow of Major Gouin			52	10	—
Ditto to the Widow of Major Kinneer			31	11	3
Ditto to Ensign Simson	at 6d per Day		9	2	6
Ditto to Serjeant Nooney	at Ditto		9	2	6
Ditto to Serjeant Fitzgerrald	at Ditto		9	2	6
Annual Allowance to Miss Buchanan			35	—	—
Ditto to Thomas Pearce			3	12	6
Salaries			210	—	—
House Rent and Taxes			30	—	—
Allowance for Maid Servant			20	—	—
Coals, Candles, and other Trifles			20	—	—
		£.	630	1	3

JOHN CHRISTOPHER ROBERTS, Clerk and Paymaster to the Military Fund.

No. 21.

THIS is to certify, That on the twelfth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix, Mr. Simeon Droz did appear before me Samuel Middleton, one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the peace for the Town of Calcutta, and diſtricts thereof, at the Engliſh Factory Houſe in Patna, and make oath to the following effect:

"That immediately after the demiſe of the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan, late Suba of the "kingdom of Bengal and provinces of Bahar and Orixa, he, to the beſt of his recollection "(and knowledge at that time in the Hindoſtan language) did hear Maharage Nundcomar, "then Duan of the provinces, declare to Captain John Stables, and ſome other gentlemen, "in Moradbaug gardens, that the Nabob, a few moments before his death, earneſtly and "repeatedly urged Nabob Nezam ul Dowlah his ſon, and the ſaid Duan, to preſent to the "Right honourable Lord Clive, on his arrival in Bengal, the ſum of five lack of rupees, as "a teſtimony of his regard for him; he (the ſaid Jaffier Aly Khan) adding that had he lived "till his Lordſhip's arrival, 'twas his intention to offer the above-mentioned ſum of five "lacks of rupees to him."

"SAMUEL MIDDLETON."

No. 22.

My Lord,

I WAS this day honoured with your letter of the 4th inſtant.

Your Lordſhip was miſinformed with regard to my being preſent when Myr Jaffier directed the ſum of five lacks of rupees to be paid to you by way of legacy.—I only happened to be preſent when Nundcomar mentioned the circumſtance to Captain Stables, and ſome other gentlemen, at Moradbaug.

I herewith encloſe to your Lordſhip my depoſition upon oath, made before Mr. Middleton wherein I have fully declared all that came to my knowledge relative to this matter.

I am, with great reſpect,
My Lord,
Your very obedient, and
Moſt humble ſervant,
SIMEON DROZ.

Patna.
October 12th 1766.

The Right honourable Lord Clive.

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